

# Bihar Herald

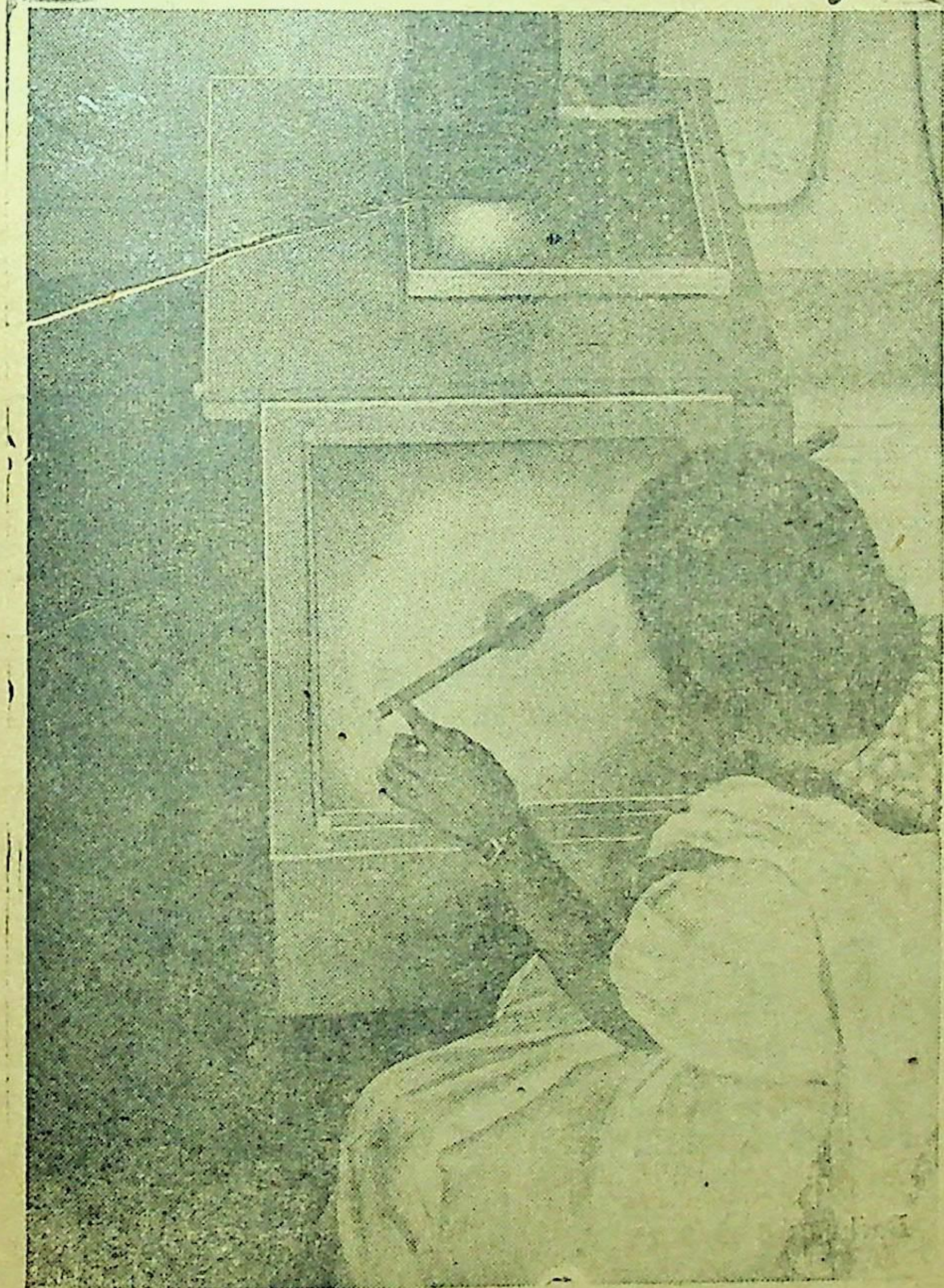
Chief Editor : Dr. S. SAMADDAR

Vol XXXII ]

PATNA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 1955

[ No. 4

## Asia's First Penicillin Factory



Asia's first penicillin factory, at Pimpri near Poona, India, is now well on the way to reaching its present production target of 1,000 pounds a month. Production began last March. Plant was set up with aid of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, World Health Organisation, and U. N. Children's Fund. Also with their aid, 13 Indians so far have been trained abroad in penicillin production. Seen here is a locally-trained technician making biological test in laboratory of potency of the penicillin produced.

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IN

# Sabse Bada Rupaiya

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Roaring 2nd Week

The Thrilling Swordfights, The Tempest of Mirth Music and Merriment on the Back Ground of Arabian Fantasy Have Set The Whole Town Rocking With Laughter, . . . . .

\* Shyama \* Mahipal \* Yasodhara Katju \* Vijaylaxmi \* Gope  
\* Chandra Shekhar \* Maruti \* Sheikh in

# TATAR KA CHOR

At REGENT

Daily 3, 6 & 9 P. M.

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# Behar Herald

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Vol LXXXII ] PATNA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1955 :[ No. 4

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## DRIFT TO AUTHORITARIANISM

Addressing a public meeting at Vishakhapatnam, Vinoba Bhave, made certain observations, which deserve consideration of all who care for democracy in this country. The observations are all the more significant since they came from a person who has no axe to grind.

According to the Acharya, "the present system, of administration (in India) both at the centre and the States was getting more and more concentrated in a single person—the Prime Minister in New Delhi and the Chief Ministers in the different States"

... "Much was being done not with moral sanction given by the people, but with the force of authority". As an instance he referred to prohibition in Madras and Bombay. Prohibition was introduced in these States because the

Chief Ministers willed so and not because there was any evidence that it was desired by the people. He doubted whether such centralisation was in consonance with the objective of a welfare State.

The Radical Democrat points out that as the Acharya does not belong to any opposition group or party but is known to enjoy the respect and confidence of the Government, it will be difficult to dismiss his criticism as biased or uninformed. It is however not enough to criticise; what is equally necessary is to find out the reason for this unhappy state of affairs. It has to be recognised that in this country (and for the matter of that, in most parts of the eastern world) the people have lived for long under the spell of authoritarian tradition; further that, the national leaders (including Mr. Gandhi) did

little, during their long manoeuvres and fight for independence, to weaken the hold of this tradition; that on the contrary, by preaching nationalism and by building up a Mahatma, they helped to strengthen this dependence of the people on the so called leaders; that the present state of affairs is the local culmination of a process, which few have cared or dared to oppose in the past. Some efforts were indeed made in the nineteenth century to sow the seeds of rationalism, individualism and democracy in the socio-cultural soil of India—particularly, in Bengal, Maharastra and some regions of the South. The seeds however were prevented from giving a rich harvest by the twin blights of religious revivalism and blind nationalism.

The Acharya pleaded for a "new outlook" amongst the people who should

should will for themselves the type of governance they wanted." The plea should find response in the heart of every lover of freedom in India. The plea however will be futile unless it is based on the understanding that a democratic outlook cannot develop in a prayer meeting or through bhoodan. Prayer inculcates submission to authority; gifts develop dependence on the giver. Unless the Aeharya realises this in time, his criticism of the Government, however sound and honest, will hardly go to develop self-reliance and critical attitude among common men and women, and in the end, he too will be repeating the tragic mistake of his more illustrious mentor and predecessor.

## NOTES & COMMENTS

### WHO GETS THE LION'S SHARE ?

An analysis of the Financial Record of a large and representative group of industries in India shows that the largest share of the earnings goes to employees who receive slightly more than one-third of the total. The next larger share of slightly less than 1/4th of the total goes to maintenance. The third biggest sharer are the Government who receive in the form of Central and State taxes one fifth of the total earnings. Re-

serves take another 10%. Management and shareholders come last in the queue more or less splitting up roughly equally between themselves the remaining 11 p.c.

### ARITHMETIC MADE EASY

Cheshire County Council education authorities have twisted the multiplication tables about so as to make it easier for children to learn them.

Instead of beginning with twice two are four and gradually working their way up to the 12-times table, youngsters will learn their tables in the following order—2, 3, 4, 10, 5, 12, 6, 8, 11, 9, 7.

The reason for starting off with 2, 3, and 4 is the common-sense one that they are small numbers and therefore easier to handle than the others.

Teachers will then jump all the way to the 10 times list because it is so simple.

You just add a nought—and at the same time gain extra confidence because you are handling two-digit numbers. Five follows because it is so closely related to 10.

The 12-times table comes next because it is useful to apply it to real life. There are 12 inches in a foot and 12 pennies in a shilling.

Similar principles are behind a number of other new ideas which the Council is introducing to make sums easier.

### CONSTABLE CAUGHT STEALING

Lal Singh Gurung, a constable of the Railway Security Force, was caught recently while trying to remove electrical fittings from a coach stationed in the Sealdah station yard.

Some Railway employees who were on the spot apprehended Gurung and handed him over to the Sealdah Railway Police. The stolen goods were recovered from his possession.

### RUSSIAN WOMEN

Mr. S. K. Nanavati, General Superintendent of Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., who recently returned from a tour of Russia as a member of the Indian Steel Delegation, said that the production of steel in Russia had considerably increased in recent years, about 40 to 45 million tons per annum.

Forty to sixty percent of employees in Russian steel industry, Mr Nanavati said were women. Crane and locomotive drivers, machine tool operators, electricians and fitters were mostly women. As for the wages, they were the same for both sexes. Another feature of Russian life was that most medical practitioners were women.

### WHAT NATIONALIZATION MEANS IN PRACTICE

Socialist M. P. of Great Britain, Norman Dobbs sat

staring out of his study window at a group of workmen. They were tearing up the streets of Dartford to replace old electric cables. Mr. Dodds had had numerous complaints that the workmen were taking an unconscionable time about it, Mr. Dodds compiled a time table:—

- 8 A. M.—work began. Should have begun at 7-30 A.M.  
 8-45 A. M.—little digging. Two shovelfuls exhausted the workers.  
 9-30 A. M.—work stopped for tea  
 10-15 A. M.—men rested on their shovels  
 11-15 A. M.—sack of apples arrived and men left off work to eat them, lounging and talking.  
 1 P. M.—Lunch time, Men had long since disappeared.  
 2 P. M.—men straggling back to work  
 2-15 P. M.—trek to lavatory  
 3-30 P. M.—work stopped for afternoon tea  
 4 P. M.—workers back on job,  
 5 P. M.—men began drifting off  
 5-30 P. M.—official end of working day.

Mr. Dodds, a socialist, indignantly said: "Men were absolutely wasted. I have never in my life seen men taking things as easy as that. One young man's sole purpose seemed to be watching and

making tea. They are robbing the people."

If things can be such in disciplined and trained Britain, one can easily imagine how our nationalized industries are being run by our welfare state with a socialistic pattern of society.

#### SNUBBING MAHATMA II

The Andhra Government was recently requested to direct the Revenue Department to cooperate with the bhoodan yagna movement to use its influence and make the movement more successful and effective.

Result:—"The Andhra Government considers that it is not advisable for Government servants to canvass for gifts of lands or otherwise directly participate in the bhoodan movement", a press communique said on 16th November.

"Use its influence" is a euphemism for putting pressure and using threats on these who are disinclined to bhudanize their land. This was done by State officials in Orissa and it was expected that Andhra would follow suit.

#### 406-PAGE NEWSPAPER

United States newspapers continue to live up to their reputation of bringing out bumper issues.

The "New York Times" has just continued the tradition by bringing out one con-

taining 406 pages and weighing four-and-a-half pounds. It was in 10 sections.

On the same day, the "New York Daily News" produced a 380-page issue, the biggest in its history.

#### A GOOD BEGINNING

The Union External Affairs Ministry has sprung a surprise on the Diplomatic Corps in the capital.

For the first time, invitations have been issued to Heads of Diplomatic Missions in Hindi. These were invitations to attend official receptions given to the Russian party.

So far, such invitations have been issued in English only.

This attempt to force all the Diplomatic staff of foreign countries to learn our national language is certainly laudable. It is the first step to make Hindi an international language. But it is a thousand pities that while we have forced foreigners to learn our language no attempt is being made to apply similar pressure on the people living in the southern part of our country to learn to speak, write, read and think in Hindi.

#### TOTALITARIAN TRENDS

Speaking at Ahmedabad Mr M. C. Chagla, Chief Justice of Bombay, made a serious criticism of the Indian Government. The criticism came from

a person of irreproachable integrity. The Chief Justice of Bombay expressed concern with the tendency of the executive in India to set up tribunals and such other institutions and administer justice without recourse to the Civil Courts of the land. This is dangerous because it goes to undermine the authority of the Civil Court. "I have always felt", said Mr. Chagla, "that only Civil Courts can protect the civil rights of the people." Moreover, by debarring lawyers from appearing before them, these tribunals made it difficult for the parties before them to be effectively and competently heard. The law courts and the bar were the foundations of a democratic state, and the Chief Justice therefore, rightly warned that it would be an evil day for India if they were weakened or undermined by any one.

It is to be hoped that these very sound and timely words of caution, coming as they do from a person of such eminence, will not fall on deaf ears. The rule of law, which for centuries had been recognised to be one of the principal conditions of a democratic society, has of late come under serious attack in many parts of the world. This attack is symptomatic of the general decline of democracy in the twentieth century. In the totalitarian states, where the judiciary has no independence, the rule of law has

come virtually to be replaced by the rule of executive order. Even in the relatively liberal societies, the courts seem to show signs of attrition. In India, there is a real danger that the executive, in its impatience to get things done quickly, would seek to dispense with the longer processes of law and even succeed in doing so with ignorant popular support. Mr. Chagla's warning is therefore not only sound, but has a very urgent significance.

#### NOT SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE.

Sir Anthony Eden has used some harsh words in condemnation of Russia's recent action in supplying arms to certain Arab countries. Of course arms have been steadily flowing into Arab lands from Britain and other Western countries and it has even been just announced that Britain intends to increase her arms supply to Jordan and Lebanon. Supply of arms and ammunition from the Western bloc is apparently held to be an innocent affair, but Russia's entry into the scene as a competitor is being characterized as inconsistent with the new spirit of Geneva. Impartial people can support neither the Eastern nor the Western Bloc in such matters. Moreover, is Britain's unilateral action in forcibly occupying the Buraimi Oasis

on behalf of her protege Sultan a step towards easing of tension in the Middle East?  
**LUXURY BUILDING FOR TRUCK DRIVERS' UNION.**

A £2,000,000 (Rs. 2.7 crores) building, where even the ashtrays cost £3 each, has just been opened here as headquarters of America's Teamsters' Union, a trade union which, with 1,400,000 members, represents America's truck drivers.

"Everything has been paid for in cash," declared 61-year-old Dave Beck, whose lavishly-equipped office measures 34 feet by 27 feet and who took advertising space in Washington newspapers and magazines to invite fellow citizens to attend the opening ceremony.

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#### THE BANK OF BEHAR LTD.

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General Manager

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Guests were ushered by uniformed attendants across thick carpets lined by banks of massed flowers. They were shown the 650-seat theatre equipped for wide-screen films and devices for piping music to every office and corridor "to make work more restful."

The building possesses a roof garden, bathrooms, and private lifts to offices of executives.

#### NOT PROVEN

The value of B.C.G. vaccination is not universally accepted. Therefore, the propriety of using it at all will always carry with it a shadow of doubt about the time, money and other efforts spent over it, which, under such circumstances, might be spent on some more useful programme.

Dr. Pomarantz, a specialist in tuberculosis practising in Philadelphia, has said that the B.C.G. programme in U.S. was limited to certain mass groups among the Red Indians and some other special groups who were living in rather insanitary conditions.

His personal view was that B.C.G. should not be done on a mass scale but the programme should be controlled. That was what was being done in U.S. and there was a thorough follow-up. All precautions were taken. 'But,' he added, 'despite wonderful statistics the efficacy of

B.C.G. is less than fully accepted'.

#### "CONGRESS STUDENTS"

While Congress leaders are never tired of repeating that students must not participate in politics, it is curious to find that the Congress maintains a costly YOUTH DEPARTMENT to catch them young. Students joining the Congress Party go right into Government favour, are assured of jobs when they pass out of educational institutions (and even when they don't) and it is for their benefit that the Congress Government is going to make possession of a university degree unnecessary for securing a government job. The majority of the students are leftists by conviction but a few have been inveigled away to the Congress camp. Non-Congress students are never invited to Rajbhavan conferences as Congress students are.

#### TROUBLE SPOTS OF THE WORLD

The British, who own Cyprus, answered the demands of Cypriots for union (*enosis*) with Greece by promising a vague home rule plan. This enraged the Turkish minority on the island. In sympathy, Turkish mobs rioted in Constantinople and inflicted damages on their town estimated at ten times the value of the whole island of Cyprus.

The Gaza strip between Israel and Egypt has seen 70

Egyptians and Israelis killed in the recent flare ups.

Thousands of Sudanese troops, Negroes from southern provinces, mutinied against their Egyptian officers from the north.

Morocco still boiled despite French moves to create what they called a "free sovereign state" that would be permanently tied to France by an act of "independence." Since August 20 about 3000 French and Moroccans have been killed and many more thousands seriously wounded.

#### TU QUOQUE

Speaking at Rajkot (Saurashtra) on Nov. 2, Mr. Nehru declared that a great majority of sadhus in India were parasites. The sadhus may, if they like, retort perfectly truly that the great majority of politicians in India are also parasites.

#### PANDORA'S BOX

The S. R. C. Commission Report has thrown the apple of political discord in the country. That was what was expected of it and we cannot blame the members of the Commission for such a denouement. But we do object to the Report going out of its way and making gratuitous remarks about the retention of English. This was certainly not in the terms of reference.

While emphasizing the importance of the State language the Commission recognizes that

there should be no lowering of the standards of English in our universities. Any such lowering will retard our progress in the cultural, scientific and technological spheres. English has helped to maintain high standards at our higher educational institutions. We cannot afford to lower them. etc., etc."

However high-powered the Commission might have been, it could not put the hands of the clock back. We are determined to banish the English language from our country as we know very well that the national language will not thrive until the foreign language, the symbol of our foreign domination, is completely forgotten by all of us. We, in Bihar, have made good progress in that direction. Our boys are learning the English alphabet in the VIII class and are progressing upto "THIS IS A HAT", "THIS IS A BAG", "RAM IS A GOOD BOY" in the IX class. We have seen to it that if the English language is to have a place in the school curriculum, our boys shall be taught as much of it as will be useless to them

#### DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

There were some differences of opinion in elections of district and thana Congress Committees in Silao, Bihta and Maner. At Silao rival groups of Congressmen, imbued with the spirit of Gandhism

exchanged fire injuring the election officer. In Bihta, Guraru and Maner, Congressmen were violently non-violent with guns. It is said (H. S.) that all relevant papers in the Patna District Congress Committee office are missing.

#### AN UNSOLVED PROBLEM

Poverty amidst plenty is one of the strange paradoxes of the modern world. On the one hand modern science and technology have increased man's productive ability manifold. On the other there are billions of human beings who do not have two square meals a day. Yet as soon as production tends to increase beyond a certain limit, prices slump heavily and all the

ingenuity of man is utilised to restrict production and keep up the level of prices. Meanwhile people continue to starve. One cannot but recall with horror the strange spectacle of the thirties when millions of people were starving in Asia and Africa and yet thousands of farmers were ruined in America and elsewhere because they could not find any market for their produce and millions of tons of footstuffs were either burnt or dumped into the sea or fed to animals to help keep up prices.

The solution to the paradox of poverty amidst plenty in the world still remains to be discovered.

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*The Circulation Manager*

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# Language Fanaticism

The language problem in India has been brought to the fore by the recent publication of the recommendations of the States Re-organisation Commission and the consequent furore created among the dissatisfied people in various states. The recommendations have mainly followed the line of appeasing the demand for the carving out of India on a linguistic basis. Barring one or two instances the future states in this country will consist of nationalities speaking one or the other of the many regional languages. India will present a bizarre picture consisting of multifarious divisions of varying areas and populations, some looking like tiny principalities and others like the bigger countries of France or United Germany in Europe. In the few exceptional cases where bilingual states are allowed to remain, insuperable problems as to which language is to dominate have arisen. Even in those states carved out strictly on a linguistic basis the problem still remains as to which language should be the medium of instruction, especially for higher studies in the Universities and technical colleges, and which language is to be in vogue for inter-state communication. The language problem is not inherent in the political set-

up of India but is an evil deliberately induced by the psychological complex of the ruling party which swears by Hindi and seeks to abolish English altogether. There is no use probably in regretting this hard fact or in proposing an ideal solution. But, however, as rationalists who are not tied down to political shibboleths, we may be permitted to record our musings in regard to the basic features of this problem.

Let us begin with a frank admission. The political unity of India was not inherent in our people but was instilled into us by our sufferings under foreign domination. We did not achieve it. It was given to us as one of the "benefits" of British rule. Nevertheless it was a progressive step in our history—the integration of smaller warring elements into a bigger coherent whole. It was a benefit and we must accept it in humility and not in pride as the Hindi fanatics do. The very word 'Hindu' and 'India' were unknown inside the geographical frontiers of this country until foreigners began to use them. There were many kingdoms in the territory now known as India. There were many peoples who spoke many languages. There were also many religions based upon varied and opposing principles struggling against

each other with no common ground between them. The foreigners who came to India and who followed religions different from all the varieties prevailing here gave a common name 'Hindu' to denote all the indigenous religions. The political set up of this country consisted of rival kingdoms which struggled for supremacy until the advent of the Mohammedans from Central Asia who established the Mughal empire in Northern India and evolved as the instrument of their administration the hybrid language of Urdu, a mix up of several local dialects and Persian. The influence of Urdu was felt all over Northern India but never in the South. Let those among our politicians who pretend not to understand the feeling of South versus North remember that the South was never subjugated by the Mughals and had always enjoyed independence until the advent of the British who established their rule first in the South and then spread out to the North.

The picture of political unity that is visible to-day in India is the result of British rule administered through the medium of the English language. For nearly three centuries the intelligentsia in the South and for a shorter time the intelligentsia in the North have been functioning

in the English language. The South has a larger vested interest in English than the North. Our best newspapers all over the country are published in that language. Our politicians speak that language with a fluency which is the admiration of the British and American people for whom that language is the mother tongue. All this acquisition, all this talent and the accumulation of knowledge and culture have been the result of three centuries of toil by the people of India. And this prodigious cultural effort is now sought to be undone by a stroke of the pen. The work of Legislatures, of the High Courts, of the national Newspapers, of the numerous administrative offices of Government and Commercial Houses and the Institutions carrying on International Trade and the cultural intercourse which India has enjoyed during these centuries through the medium of English are now sought to be put an end to. Everything is to be abolished and everything is to be started from the scratch *de novo* in the undeveloped Hindi language!

It is so soon forgotten that the political force which consolidated itself as Indian Nationalism and grew to such strength that it drove the foreign rulers out of India was originated and nourished by

English language and literature. The technical knowledge and know-how which built up the vast textile industry which is the envy of the world was made possible by the co-operation of British and foreign technicians and Indian technicians trained in England and other foreign countries. It is not realised that if India is to take her rightful place as an advanced nation and build up her vast industrial potential there will be a crying need for scientists and technicians of all kinds who receive their training through the English medium. Ignoring all these difficulties and braving all the dangers ahead the framers of the Constitution of India have attempted to abolish the English language from India in the course of fifteen years, that is, in another ten years from now. But there are a few safeguards provided in the Constitution and the way is still open for Parliament to rectify the mistake. It is never too late to retrace a false step. The publication of the States Reorganisation Commission's recommendations has opened out the ugly sores of linguism which has infested the Indian body politic. It has shown up the falsity of the doctrine by *reductio ad absurdum*.

It is a vain thought, but it may give some consolation to think out what we would

do if we were in power and in a position to deal with the problem. In the first place, it should be remembered that viability must be given top priority in any attempt to redraw geographical frontiers. It is the ignoring of this principle and the sole reliance placed upon the accident of percentages of populations, which is a variable factor, that created all the difficulties during the days of the partition of India and the formation of Pakistan. While India is too big an area to be administered as a single state, the division into units must have some consideration for the formation of units that will have a certain degree of uniformity in regard to area and population. The irrational cry for linguism should have been put down from the start and all attention diverted to the improvement and modernisation of regional languages so as to equip them to serve as efficient vehicles for education in science and technology. The fact must be brought home to the people that language is not a divinity to worship but is a means to achieve the end of social well being. Language is but a tool which must be remoulded and sharpened to tackle the job on hand. This can be done only by a linguistic revolution abolishing the old

and complicated scripts which are mainly responsible for our mass illiteracy and by introducing the Roman or some other simplified script for all the regional languages. The introduction of such a simplified and modernised script will serve as the means for mass education and for the abolition of illiteracy. Such an effort would mean the development of the regional languages in extent as well as in depth. More people would be educated and more knowledge would be given in these languages. At the same time the tempo of English education should not be lowered so that the mastering of knowledge of science and technology would go ahead without interruption and would be further stimulated so that in the near future India would catch up with the

more advanced Nations of the West.

Is all this a mere dream, or is there yet scope for rational action to achieve progress and prosperity is a matter on which we cannot venture an opinion. All that we can say is that the position is getting worse and the States Reorganisation Commission's report has created a crisis which deserves the anxious consideration of all thinking minds in India. The first great step to be taken to meet the crisis is the amendment of the provisions of the Constitution which has laid a time limit for the change over of English into Hindi as the official language. The enforcement of this provision as it stands will break up the unity of Indian in spite of all

efforts that may be taken to put down the discontented elements in the South or in the North, in the West or in the East. The Hindi fanatics are talking of using military force to quell any rebellion against their designs. But they should remember that force never yet won a fight for cultural values. Whatever action may be taken to implement the States Reorganisation Commission's report it must be considered as tentative and transitory. A rational re-division of India into viable units will alone conduce to National unity. The task of building up a united India for the future is linked up with the ability of our political leadership to put down the Hindi fanatics.

*The Indian Rationalist*

## The Vedas In The Air

The All India Radio has decided to broadcast recordings of the Vedas, the most ancient of all religious hymns sung by the early Aryans when they settled on the Indo-Gangetic plains five thousand years ago. Obviously, this recording is to be of the original text in the Sanskrit language. There is a furious search being made for Pandits who can recite the hymns with proper intonation. The

stock of Pandits is soaring high in the money market. Orthodox people are happy and are excited over the proposal and a writer in *The Mail* gloats in anticipatory bliss: "the melody and rhythm is enough to create a feeling of peace in everyone whether one understands the meaning or not". But we should remind the writer that this supreme "feeling of peace" can be experienced by the listener

of the Vedic recitation only if he does not understand the meaning. Because, there can be no feeling excited except that of revulsion and annoyance in the listener if he understands the meaning of the Vedic hymns which will be more or less in the following strain:—"Oh! god of fire! accept this sacrifice of the cow which we are offering to you and send us in exchange your

blessings. Oh! god of wind! please drink the wine we are offering you and save us from the blast that destroys our trees. Oh! god of thunder! we are offering you these goats so that you may be appeased and may not strike us down by your lightning." Such are the sentiments which run through the Vedas and the primitive savage tribes who gave expression to these sentiments were so innocent of all knowledge of the natural phenomena of fire, wind, lightning, rain and thunder, that they personified these natural phenomena as gods and goddesses and sought to appease them by offering them sacrifices of roasted cows and wine which were the only food available to them in those days.

Now, a listener in the 20th century India, however orthodox he may be, cannot enthuse over the descriptions of these sacrifices. For one thing the orthodox people consisting of the upper and middle classes are, under Gandhian influence, becoming more and more vegetarian and will not approve the offering of roasted meat to the sacred deities. The policy of enforcing prohibition of all drink persisted in by the ruling Congress Party has driven the entire trade in drinks underground and it is no more respectable to drink in public and it would be scandalous to

offer drinks to the gods. It is therefore but meet and proper that these Vedic hymns are recorded and broadcast in the unknown language of 5000 years ago so that no one will understand their meaning and the empty sounds may stimulate whatever emotions the listeners are capable of working themselves into when they get the pious mood. We should like to ask the authorities of the AIR as to who was responsible for this brain wave of broadcasting Vedic texts and what was the justification for such an unprecedented step. If Vedic texts are to be broadcast should not other texts from other sacred scriptures also be broadcast? We are not referring merely to extracts from the Quran in Arabic and the Bible in the original Hebrew version. But we are asking especially whether the texts of the equally ancient but heterodox writings like the Brihaspati Sutras are not also to be recorded and broadcast over the air. Indeed, it will be difficult for the AIR to choose which of the numerous texts of our ancient scriptures are to be recorded and which to be rejected, whether the hymns relating to the rituals alone are to be recorded and what to do with the later philosophic writings. If the latter are also to be included in the recordings, which school of thought is to

be allowed and which discarded. These questions will naturally arise when the work of actual recordings will begin and will create difficulties for the authorities to whom we extend our cordial sympathies in their predicament. But let them remember that it was needless for them to bring this disaster over their heads. There is no sense in using up valuable radio time by broadcasting meaningless sounds which will remind the listener only of the croaking of the frogs in the rainy season.

There is a serious objection to the broadcast of the Vedas which the AIR has obviously ignored. The law of Manu prohibits such broadcasts. Manu is the law-giver and the originator of the entire Hindu jurisprudence. He has definitely laid it down that no one except those born in the higher castes can listen to the sounds of the Vedas. He has prescribed the penalty of pouring molten lead into the ears of those among the lower castes who venture to listen to the Vedic recital. It may be that the prohibition was intended to protect the Vedas against the ridicule of intelligent people who might happen to listen and understand the texts. But this prohibition was literally enforced until recent times and its validity is still believed in by the orthodox. Since the vast majority of the people

(Contd. on page 59)

# Sociological Limitations In National Planning

By N. BAKSI, I.C.S., Bar-at-Law

It is not without a sense of diffidence that I rise to speak on a subject which is not only vast in its scope but may be controversial in many respects. My main object is to share some of my tentative ideas primarily with the hope of stimulating thought about matters which vitally concern every nation.

## *Limitations Inherent*

### *In All Planning*

The main object of any National planning in a Welfare State is to ensure the maximum development of the potentialities of the nationals and, with this end in view, to develop the economic and material resources required for the first and primary purpose. It must, therefore, follow that the development of material and economic resources is a means to end and not an end in itself. The first essential in planning must, therefore, be preferential emphasis on the survey of human materials with reference to their physiological and cultural conditions and requirements for development, in the light of the range and standard of their potentialities as far as they can be ascertained. If this view be accepted, this survey, which may be called the human survey, must precede, or at least be simultaneous with, the survey

of economic and material resources and the same order should be maintained as far as practicable in planning the maintenance and development of human resources vis-a-vis the planning and development of material and economic resources.

In a particular nation or community with certain types of economic and material resources, there are some obvious inherent limitations.

All development work has to be carried on by human beings, the available utilisable number of whom must be a primary limiting factor. As every nation has to engage a requisite number of its employable personnel in various essential national services, like Administration, Defence, Education, Health Services, etc. etc., the number available for any fresh development, or the extension of any existing development work, also stands further restricted. In the case of development work, like industrialisation on modern lines, the requisite number of technically qualified personnel available during the period of the plan also sets the limit to the quantum of expansion even if allowances are made for such assistance as may be available from friendly foreign countries willing to supply and erect the machines and to provide a limited number of technical personnel for a limited number of years. There

are also similar obvious limitations in development arising out of the presence and quantum in utilisable forms of the economic resources in a country at a particular time. The question of priorities with reference to a period plan, say a 5-Year Plan, arises when we come to distribute the available surplus quota of human personnel and material resources among certain workable plans which we may approve. On the question of priority there must be necessarily difference of opinion in different countries according to the standard of values attached to different types of development by different countries or by different sections of the same country.

### *Necessity of balanced distribution of human resources between different branches of national life.*

An undeveloped country, the development of which has long suffered from internal strife, poverty, lack of educa-

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(Contd. from page 42)

who are designated as Hindus belong to the lower castes, we leave it to the reader to work out the calculations as to the thousands of tons of lead that will have to be melted and poured into the millions of offending ears of low caste people who will listen in to the broadcasts of the sacred Vedas over the AIR if and when this proposal materialises.

—The Indian Rationalist

tion, or political domination by exploiting foreigners, naturally desires rapid progress in all directions in the wake of renaissance born of independence. There is naturally an understandable and reasonable tendency to secure due rapidity of progress in development through nationalisation or through State controlled or State sponsored organizations. In this case also, there is a limiting factor which requires that the planned development should be so adjusted as not to absorb all or the overwhelming majority of employable human resources but to leave, in the public life, a requisite number of human personnel, with requisite quality and capacity, for providing the vitally important political leadership in the legislatures which are responsible for guiding the State, as well as for certain other necessary national activities.

Apart from those set forth above, there are two further limitations, which are more fundamental and which, in their dynamic aspects are operative throughout the life of a nation, irrespective of the limited periods of particular plans, that may be framed from time to time. *The first is the moral and spiritual qualities of the citizens of the State as reflected in the totality of the national character which has naturally to be sustained and inspired by the totality of the*

*character of the national leadership.* The second, which is inseparably connected with the first and which has already been referred to, in passing, is the integrated capacity of the nation to put forth its maximum total effort for attaining a particular objective at a given time or within a stipulated period. No enactments of statutes however lofty be their aims, no planned improvement in the machinery of administration however educated and intelligent may be the administrative personnel and no expansion in industrialisation according to blue-prints drawn up by the best of experts generously lent by friendly foreign nations can possibly create a good and secured society of fully developed human beings if moral qualities, in requisite measure, in terms of character, honesty and genuine love for the country be lacking. Education and learning have no doubt great value in increasing the capacity of human beings for creative work but in my humble opinion, they are not of as fundamental importance as the basic human virtues detailed above. Great administrators like Ranjit Singh, and inspiring preachers like Kabir, were illiterate. Unless the citizens possess these qualities, it also becomes very difficult, if not impossible, to secure due integration of the national energy of the attainment of a defined objective specially in a country with a heterogenous

population, representing different racial, cultural and linguistic elements. If this view be accepted, it must therefore follow that any comprehensive scheme of national planning should include a scheme, to be ceaselessly operative, for the development of these moral qualities and provisions for training up the national total effort whenever the call comes. In countries, stretching over vast areas, with a diversified socio-economic structure, the problem of harmonious integration of these heterogenous elements call for special attention and study.

From what I have spoken, the inference is that in a modern society, which wishes to continue as a welfare state on a democratic model, planning essentially involves what I may call a co-ordinated budgeting of human as well as material resources based on priorities according to the standards of values that may be acceptable to the community from time to time and that there must necessarily be limitations in any planning owing to socio-economic factors in operation.

*Four points about the position in India of to-day*

As I cannot possibly deal with all the different aspects of the limitations in their operation in our own country, I shall restrict myself to saying a few words only about

four of the relevant matters, namely, the position about our human resources, the nature and extent of the personnel available for the different branches of our National life, the position about the trend of moral and spiritual qualities and the need for a scheme of planned Indianization.

The basic problems which confront our Nation are a large and increasing population, heavy infant and maternity mortality resulting from the lack of proper nutrition and of Child-welfare and Maternity services, avoidable suffering and ill-health from diseases, and pre-mature deaths, widespread poverty leading to inadequate nutrition which increases the incidence of disease and death. Apart from these factors which have been operative for decades past and have been causing cumulative deterioration of the physique of our nationals. There are also grossly inadequate arrangements for their mental development, in terms of education and cultural training. The health of the citizens which constitutes the biological framework of the Nation, and which must necessarily include a planned scheme for providing the minimum maternity services, call for high priority among other things.

#### *Distribution of personnel:*

As to the position about personnel, as a result of increasing government activities in the form of expansion of existing departments, creation of new departments, increasing nationalization of public undertakings and opening of State-controlled or State-sponsored enterprises, the overwhelming majority of qualified men and women of requisite standard are being absorbed in these Government or quasi-Government institutions. The expansion of some of the administrative services which offer the highest salaries are naturally absorbing most the brightest students of our Universities, those available for employment as teachers in Schools being generally of a much inferior standard than those going to various administrative and other services. As a matter of fact, Government recruiting agencies like the Public Service Commissions are finding it increasingly difficult to procure the requisite number of candidates required by the different Governments without appreciably lowering the standard of selection. In this connection, two questions would naturally arise—what would be the cumulative effect of the totality of work in the administration by personnel of lower standard? Even if the effect of this be not very material, at least for some years to come, the more serious question is two-fold. What is going

to be the effect on the education of the Nation if the education is left to persons who, owing to the comparative conditions of service, cannot be expected to be persons of requisite standard? Is this class of personnel likely to be in a position to undertake the training of the best elements of the next generation? The second relevant question is—What is going to be the effect on the public life of the country which has to provide suitable men and women to undertake the very important and onerous duty of providing political leadership responsible for initiation of policy and guiding the legislatures in a democracy, if Government employment, like a gigantic Octopus, with ever-increasing dimensions, tends to engulf all the employable human resources? Prima-facie, the position calls for careful consideration for the purpose of re-orienting our policy of education by way of revising conditions of service for teachers in schools of different grades and in Universities so as to make the noble vocation of teaching as attractive as any other vocation and to ensure that a reasonable number of our brightest students may be expected to become teachers and research workers and later Professors of Universities. The speed of absorption of the best men and women in Government or Government sponsored services should be so regulated as to create a sociological environment calculated to

encourage a reasonable number of the best human resources of the country to remain in public life.

*Passing phase of frustration and moral decadence*

Regarding the trend of moral and spiritual qualities, from all reports, it appears that as though we are going through a period of frustration and moral decadence and have lost the true significance of the spiritual leadership of the great Father of the Nation. I remember to have read a light novel, in which an elderly friend of the young impatient hero was pleading for fortitude and while analysing the mental make-up of the heroine, was trying to explain that a modern woman "Never says what she means, never means what she says". On a certain occasion, when I repeated this story light-heartedly to a public man of eminence, who had got disgusted with his public life and was denouncing speeches made by some of his comrades, he said with great feeling "What to speak of women—we platform speakers never say what we do, and never do what we say!" Not being a woman or a public man, I am incompetent to say where the truth lies, and must leave the matter to social service workers. The position does not, however, admit of being brushed away with light treatment. There appears to be a growing divergence in our be-

havioural approach between practice and preaching and this moral decline has to be checked at all costs. In this context, I recall Ritcher's inimitable words, pregnant with deep meaning—"The best way to serve is to act on the advice you give to others" Preaching, to be of any moral significance, must be based on a deep and sincere faith of the speaker in what he speaks and as far as practicable there should be a sincere attempt to reflect the same in his conduct. When practice proceeding in preaching it becomes almost irresistible.

*Process of Indianization*

Now a word about the problem of Indianization in terms of national integration. We have a large and exquisite variety of human forms and cultures harmoniously blended with a diversified social and economic cultures in the back-ground of varied forms of natural scenes and differing topographical features. In planning this process of national integration, the operation of which is not limited to any period but is co-extensive with the life of the nation, we may, with advantage, learn much from a careful study of the planned methods adopted by other countries, particularly the United States and the U.S.S.R. In spite of the acute sociological complications caused by the history and the presence of the

Negro population, our American friends have, through a planned system of Americanisation, carefully blended with their system of national education, integrated heterogenous racial and cultural elements coming from different countries of the world and have created a civilisation based on a way of life and thought which is peculiarly American. Henry Steele Commager, a great educationist of America, in his book, "Our Schools have kept us free", sums up the part played in this process by the schools and educators of America in the following words,—"The most heterogenous of modern societies—profoundly varied in racial back-

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ground, religious faith, social and economic interest—has ever seemed the most easy prey to forces of riotous privilege and ruinous division. These forces have not prevailed; they have been routed, above all, in the school rooms and on the play grounds of America”.

In more recent times, our Soviet friends, while following a somewhat different political philosophy, have won the admiration of the world by their wonderful capacity to knit together into a new type of nationhood numerous widely divergent racial, linguistic and cultural groups scattered over a area, partly in Asia and partly in Europe.

While we have made great strides in our development since our independence in a manner which has evoked the admiration of the World, let us not, in our legitimate satisfaction in our growing strength, refuse to take notice of weak points wherever they lie. The clamour, even though short-lived, over the location of certain industrial plants, and the commotion caused in certain quarters over certain proposed administrative re-organization of the country, may well serve to remind us that while we have gone a long way in consolidating our National unity, the process of Indianization is not yet complete. One of our most essential needs is a comprehensive plan for Indianisation, which must necessarily be broad-based on the planning of our system of education, right from

the lowest classes, which cater for the moulding of the national mind during its formative period. Both direct and indirect means should be adopted to train the mind and character so as to develop an *All-India outlook*: the policy regulating all organs affecting the training of the public mind, viz. the Press, the Radio, the Cinema, the Stage, the Theatre, sports and other forms of recreation and the literature, including text-books in schools and colleges, should be co-ordinated with the recurrent theme about the importance of Indianization in our national life. The plan

will have to include recurring provisions for organised continuous social contact between our nationals of different states and for exchange of ideas about their distinctive cultures through the provision of composite museums depicting the acts and cultures of all the States, not only at Delhi but at all State headquarters, interstate holiday camps for persons of different age, particularly for children, holiday excursions, exchange of scholars, teachers, artists, foundations for the study of the languages of other states, like the Hindi and *China*



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*Bharwans* at Santi-Niketan and similar other methods.

New generations are being born every day and the need for continuing the planned training in Indianisation must remain for ever. The process will require great artists in Indianisation in the person of leaders, who can escape the lure of party politics and refuse to speak from a position of strength or authority, but who, endowed with great qualities of character, integrity and love for the country, transcending all sectarian and communal considerations, will command the affection and respect of their countrymen.

#### *The future*

As to the future, while there may be difficulties and dangers in our way, let us be optimists and have faith in the ultimate mission of our Republic in consonance with the great heritage of our ancient civilisation which has withstood the vicissitudes of ages past. We have some unique advantages, not only arising out of the deep unity of our civilizational bond but also owing to the fact that the sharing of long suffering in the struggle for independence has immeasurably reinforced

this unity. The emergence of the Indian Republic is a mighty event pregnant with momentous consequences not only to the millions of our own nationals but also to the whole world. The world at present is divided between two ideological groups—one led by the Anglo-American block and the other by the U.S.S.R. The position of our Republic as a gigantic buffer neutral State enables her to use weight for trying to promote world peace, as we are doing on the basis of peaceful co-existence. The very recent gigan-

tic thermo-nuclear explosion may, however, serve as a timely pointer to the possible danger that if perchance efforts for peaceful co-existence on the basis of recognition of moral and spiritual values in human relationship fails in spite of the efforts of the thinkers of the arrangements are being speeded up for co-destruction of humanity.

May I prayerfully end with the big question :

Is everyone of us prepared to play his or her part according to the ideal—"SERVICE ABOVE SELF" so as to enable our great Republic to fulfil her mission in the World ?

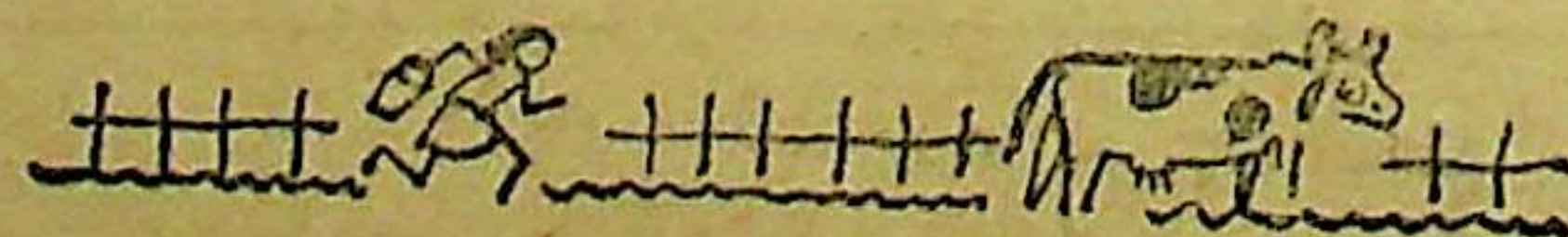
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### *Local news*

\* At the election for a seat in the Syndicate of the Patna University, held at the Senate meeting last Wednesday, Dr. S. Samaddar got elected by 57-41. The Looser, Mr. Brajeswar Prasad, Advocate, was the sitting member since 1952.

\* Dr. Rajendra Prasad's 71st Birth Anniversary will be celebrated at the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Hall on Saturday, the 3rd December afternoon.

\* Messrs. P. P. Agarwal, I.C.S., and Dr. J. S. Patel, two eminent officials of the State Government leave for Delhi this week to take up their new assignments in the Ministry of Irrigation and Agriculture respectively.



# 'nations unies'

TRIBUTE TO WORK FOR REFUGES

## Humanitarian UN Operation That Won Noble Peace Prize

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y.—The Noble Peace Prize for 1954 has been awarded to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Set up in 1950 and headed by Dr. G. J. Van Heuven Goedhart, this Office provides international protection and promotes permanent solution for the problems of some 2,200,000 people uprooted from the homelands.

UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld has welcomed the award to the Refugee Office as a "token of the valuable humanitarian work" it is doing,

### THREE WAYS FOR SOLUTION

There are three main methods for a permanent solution of the refugee problem open to the UN Office. One is repatriation, but only if refugees freely wish it. The others are emigration to another country, and integration into the life of the countries where they have taken refuge. Government cooperation, of course, is also needed.

The Agency helps to provide housing for refugees and loans to start small businesses. It gives some emergency aid, too.

### FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM

In promoting permanent solutions, the High Commissioner's Office began a four-year program this year to settle the problems of 70,000 in refugee camps in Austria,

Greece, Western Germany, Italy and Trieste, and those of about 230,000 others struggling to make do outside the camps. They still need international aid.

Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway and others have offered permanent homes to some of the 36,000 in Austria's camps, in response to appeals by the High Commissioner.

But integration seems now to be the main problem.

The four-year program, it is estimated will cost \$16 million, to come mainly from voluntary contributions by governments. The contributions target for 1955 is \$4.2 million. Contributions however, about \$1.7 million short of this figure. The UN General Assembly has appealed to governments for funds.

### USE OF PRIZE MONEY

The sum of about \$35,000 which goes with the Nobel Peace Prize will be used for the four-year program.

## Plans to Reduce Red Tape In Air Travel Recommended

MANILA—Plan to reduce red tape in international air travel still further and to make flying from one country to another easier and quicker have been worked out at a 23-nation meeting organized here by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

It also recommended that a careful study be made of terminal installations to see if the time which passengers spend waiting on the ground can be reduced.

It did so in view of the impending use of jet aircraft, which cut down on actual flying time, and the use of helicopters which reduced travel time between air-ports and air terminals.

### FORMS FOR PASSENGERS

Proposals for easing red tape include elimination of passenger lists ("manifests") and, ultimately, of embarkation/disembarkation cards. For the immediate future, it was suggested that the number of questions to be answered on these cards be reduced from 20 to 10.

Also recommended was acceptance or oral instead of written passenger baggage declarations for custom purposes.

Another proposal was that the practice at some international airports of collecting passports of transit passengers be done away with.

Before the various recommendations of the Manila meeting can come into effect, they must first be approved by the ICAO Council.

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