

Bihar Herald

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Chavan Thinks Ranchi Riots Pre-Planned

Ranchi, Aug. 29.

The Union Home Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, told a press conference here tonight that the impression he had gathered during his visit to Ranchi today was that the disturbances here were "organised and pre-planned".

He said his impression was based on the nature and scale of the disturbances (which began on August 22).

Mr. Chavan suggested that firm action and proper investigation was necessary to prevent recurrence of such national calamities".



Y. B. Chavan

He said that outbreak of violence at industrial areas like Ranchi had given rise to certain issues which had to be studied carefully and some decisions taken to prevent them effectively.

Questioned if he agreed with the view that a faction of Congressmen had fomented the trouble in Ranchi, Mr. Chavan said it would be unfair to make any such allegation particularly when the State Government was going to hold a judicial enquiry.

Asked if he supported the move of the Congress to have coalition with the Shoshit Dal to topple the United Front Ministry in Bihar, Mr. Chavan said he had come to Ranchi in his capacity as Home Minister. The answer to the question could be given better by the Congress President or the Congress High Command.

Mr. Chavan suggested that immediate steps should be taken for the relief and rehabilitation of those who had been evacuated from the affected areas of Ranchi. He said the Union Government would give the fullest co-operation in this task as also in the task of proper investigation of the Ranchi disturbances.

The Police Minister of Bihar, Mr. Ramanand

CONGRESS W.C. CONSIDERING TOPPLE MOVE

Ulf Confident : Bihar Cogress Divided

★ Staff Reporter ★

Patna :

The move to topple the six-month old Coalition Government of Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha entered a new phase on Friday with both sides : the United left Front and the Bihar Congress poised for a show down.

In Delhi, while Mr. Mahesh Prasad Sinha, leader of the Congress Legislature Party—whose one-vote majority is not accepted, for all practical purposes by such State Congress stalwarts like Satyendra Narain Sinha and many others—tried to persuade Congress President Kamaraj and other important members of the Congress Parliamentary Board to approve the marriage convenience with B. Mandal's so-called "Shoshit Dal", another section of vocal and important Congress leaders in Bihar got ready to thwart the move. Meanwhile, at Patna, the statement war continued. Will the Congress Working Committee now in session, accept and bless the coalition move by one section of Bihar Congress ? This sixty-four dollar question is likely to be decided by the working Committee on Saturday evening.

Knowledgable—and non-paztisan—sources believe that a majority of the SSP and other defectors who either jumped into or were pulled up Mandal's band wagon are now back to their respective folds. Mr. Mandal, the ex-honorary magistrate and Saharsa landlord, however, continues to be optimistic that, before long, he will be able to "prove" his numerical strength.

The Political scene — and the Principal actors are likely to shift to riot-torn Ranchi early next week. Bihar's retired Governor, Mr. A. S. Iyyenger whose tenure had been extended recently by the Union Home Ministry "until further advice" on Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha's successful advocacy, may

Tiwary, who attended the press conference, gave details of the large police reinforcements that had been sent to Ranchi to tackle the situation.

Addressing a representative meeting of leading citizens were, Mr. Chavan called upon the people in general and youths and students in particular to work for maintaining communal harmony and peace in the country.

He said that all religions were sacred and stood for humanity Bihar had always been in the vanguard during the national movement and

have to play a leading role next week, to solve the constitutional and other relevant issues should Mandal succeed in physically presenting more than thirteen defectors. The file containing Mr. Mandal's forced resignation came out of the Governor's Office on the 30th—three days after the papers were received.

P.M.C. Superseded C.E.O. Appointed Administrator

(By Staff Reporter)

Patna, Sept. 2. The Patna Municipal Corporation has been superseded by an order of the Bihar Government with effect from Sept. 1. Mr. Shashi Shekhar Prasad Sinha, Chief Executive Officer, has been appointed Administrator to carry on the work of the Corporation during the period of supersession.

According to a Government notification the Corporation has failed to function in accordance with the Patna Municipal Corporation Act, 1951. The reply of the Corporation to the show cause notice of the Government is said to have been found unsatisfactory.

The Administrator shall exercise and perform all the powers and duties of the Corporation, the standing Committee, the consultative Committee and the Chief Executive Officer under the act, says the Government notification.

he hoped the people of Ranchi would maintain the high tradition of the state, he added.

Mr. Chavan, accompanied by the Chief Minister Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha and the Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Karpuri Thakur, arrived here this afternoon to make an on-the-spot study of the situation in Ranchi. They went to the riot-hit areas and heard tales of the affected Hatia, headquarters of the Heavy Engineering Corporation and met the local authorities there.

Will Iyyenger play cricket? This is another question that is dominating — and disturbing—many.

DESAI YIELDS ON CASH D.A.



Morarji Desai

From Our Correspondent New Delhi :

Mr. Morarji Desai has, at last, yielded to the demand of payment in cash of the additional dearness allowance payable to Central Government employees drawing salary up to Rs. 449/- per month from September 1.

Regarding the inter-linked demand of payment of arrears (between February to August 1967) the Dep. Finance Minister continues to stick to his original stand of deferred payment in March, 1968.

This ultimate conciliatory stand on the part of the Deputy Prime Minister — who earlier insisted on partial cash neutralisation of the current D.A. — seemed to have broken the ice and there were reasonable prospects of an early settlement of the deadlock.

The I.N.T.U.C. and its affiliated unions of the Central Government employees readily agreed with Mr. Desai, and Mr. S.R. Vasvada announced before the waiting Pressmen that since the Government had accepted his formula he would advise the National Federation of Railwaymen and other I.N.T.U.C. affiliated unions to withdraw the strike notice.

"There will be no token strike on September 11", he said, adding, "So far as I

am concerned the settlement is reached".

Though they were not so prompt as their counterparts belonging to the I.N.T.U.C. the representatives of the Joint Council of Action — which is a co-ordinating body of all other unions affiliated to AITUC, HMS, UTUC and HMP — also felt that Mr. Desai had sufficiently clumbed down. But they did not announce their acceptance of the formula or decision regarding the threatened strike on the plea that they would have to consult the other members in the Joint Council of Action.

The Joint Council of Action will meet here on September 4 to review the talks which its representatives had with the Union Government on the demands of the payment of the increased dearness allowance in support of which the Council had called for a day's token strike on September 11.

The Working Committee of the All India Railwaymen's Federation, a constituent of the J.C.A., will also meet here on the same day.

The members of the J.C.A., now here, later heard a resume of the talks from their leaders including Mr. S. M. Joshi and Mr. Peter Alvares.

Behar Herald

ESTD. 1874

A FIASCO

The Patna Municipal Corporation seems to be flush with funds. At least that is what its Chief Executive Officer, seems to imagine. He has started a campaign to clean Patna by the novel method of inserting advertisements daily in the local newspapers asking the citizens to "do this" or to refrain from doing that.

A current advertisement shows amusing lack of common sense of the Chief Executive Officer. It asks peremptorily "all owners of buildings and/or lands having service latrines to convert them into septic latrines on or before the 15th October 1967." The threat is held out that any one not doing so will be punished.

Only two months time is given to the unfortunate citizens of Patna to convert their lakhs of old type latrines to the sanitary type. Supposing the citizens take the order of the Chief Executive Officer seriously and plan to carry out his order. Are there enough plumbers and trained workmen to accept the vast undertaking and complete it in 2 months? Are enough pipes, cement, overhead cisterns and porcelain pans, available? Even assuming that these will be provided by the Chief Executive Officer, will enough spare land be available in the lanes and slum areas of Patna to make room for the underground tanks that will be needed in the greater part of the city where there is no underground sewerage? Innumerable small houses in Patna have not an inch of land to spare for excavation of the underground septic tanks.

When levying new taxes, Patna Municipal Corporation ignores the fact that most of the poor and middle class people of Patna who have their houses here, are in very bad financial state now. To ask them to spend a few hundred rupees today is, to say the least, ridiculous.

One wonders what punishment will be meted out to those citizens who are unable to comply with the order of the Chief Executive Officer on (or by) the 15th October 1967. Another advertisement (there has been a series of them recently) request the rate-payers to be prompt in paying their quarterly dues to the Corporation. We would like to be informed whom to pay. We have been waiting for the tax-collector to come and receive from us the house etc. tax for the quarter April-May-June but he never came. He could have got the tax from us a month ago. There is serious slackness on the part of the Corporation in collecting its dues.

NOTES & COMMENTS

HOW THE RUPEE HAS FALLEN!

A reader has given a very graphic illustration of the fall in the value of the rupee during the last 50 years. He says that he secured the best possible result in the University—1st in 1st class Honours in B.Sc. and 1st in 1st class in M. Sc. For all that he got a job in a College as demonstrator on Rs. 125 a month (less income tax). That was in the year 1915. The other day he came across a former cook of his, now working as a chaprassi in the Income Tax department getting a total of Rs. 133 a month, no income tax, but with free uniform and free medicine for self and family.

PLAIN SPEAKING

Sri M. P. Sinha (not Mahamaya Babu) has advised (Aug. 27) Congressmen in Monghyr to mix with the masses and take up their cause.

Gandhians "mix with the masses" only in election time once in five years. They just did it only a few months ago. For the present, Gandhians feel that they are unable to take up the cause

of the masses, being out of office. So, they have concentrated all their effort to get into power as soon as possible and the end justifies the means adopted for the purpose. Their heart bleeds for the masses and they are trying their utmost to bring about the fall of the present coalition Ministry in Bihar that has been thoroughly corrupt and dishonest. It has not been able even to hold the price line or to arrange for equitable distribution of rainfall all over the State. It has not been able to stop the floods in the rivers of North Bihar. It has been persecuting capable government officers on flimsy charges. It is not tendering its resignation to the Governor although greatly outnumbered by its opposition—the Soshit Dal and its satellite, the Congress.

A TRUE LOVER OF THE PEOPLE

We find it hard not to be full of admiration for Sri B.P. Mandal, the selfless political leader whose heart bled for the miseries of depressed classes and women who were not given enough representa-

tion in the Government. At first he joined the Gandhians but was soon fed up with them and left the Party in disgust for the S. S. P. While there he realized that the only way to help Harijans and women was not through any of the existing political parties (where each was for himself) but to form a new party of his own. So he kicked the S.S.P. and came out in the open with some camp followers. He was not long in finding a suitable auxiliary in M. P. Sinha's Congress which agreed to come under the banner of Soshit Dal and accept Mandal as the leader of the coalition. From that moment began the triumphant march of the Soshit Dal with Mandal in lead and M. P. Sinha and his Party as camp followers. They are all now full of anxiety for the suppressed, depressed, oppressed and exploited classes for whom nobody has done any thing so far. Sri Mandal is the only leader of the people who has felt for the people and comes as their Messiah. As Chief Minister he is likely to fix the price of diluted milk at Rs. 1.50 a seer.

WE PRODUCE COSTLIEST GOODS

Although there is a growing demand in neighbouring Ceylon for machine tools, Indian exporters have not been able to step up their sales because of uncompetitive prices.

Even after devaluation of the rupee, the prices of Indian lathes are about Rs. 4,000 higher than similar products from the East European countries.

IT IS AN ILL WIND

Central Ministers aerial tours over drought-stricken Bihar and Eastern U. P. cost the exchequer Rs. 18,704 in T. A.

The highest sum (Rs. 8275) was drawn by S. D. Misra at the rate of Rs. 103/- per day. Our Bali Ram came second with Rs. 3,387, i. e., Rs. 128 a day. Morarji Desai's T. A. bill amounted to Rs. 568 (Rs. 284 per day); our dear old Jag drew Rs. 496 (Rs. 99 per day). Former planner, Socialist Asok Mehta's bill for one day tour amounted to Rs. 303, the highest amount per day. Sushila Nayar sent in a bill for Rs. 164 (one day) only. The Prime Minister's flight was in an I. A. F. plane, so she could not get any thing.

RESULT OF PROHIBITION

The strongest argument in the armoury of the Prohibitionists is that prohibition "protects the poor from the hazards and expenses of excessive drinking." But recently prohibition has killed a hundred and fifty poor men in Madras and disabled for life many more who would not have taken to drinking varnish made with the poisonous Methyl Alcohol, if ordinary wines were available to them. This is no new experience: in America, between 1919 and 1933 thousands of people died or were blinded through drinking methylated spirit or other concoctions containing the poisonous Methyl alcohol. It has a particularly devastating effect on the optic nerve. When it does not

kill, it blinds people for life. But these arguments are of no avail to fanatics like Morarji or his creature Tek Chand.

REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM

The much publicized weapon of Dr. Chandrasekhar, the Health Minister, to stem the flood of humanity has added to the shame Indians already have on account of their annual contribution to the starving population. The plan for voluntary sterilization is not bad, but its execution by awarding a prize of 40 rupees worth of transistor radio to every volunteer spoils its seriousness and is at the same time a reflection on the Indian character. Are Indians so avaricious that they have to be tempted by a transistor set for doing something beneficial to themselves? This indeed is a very poor estimate of their character and no doubt makes them a laughing stock before people everywhere.

The Health Minister's second proposal to have a law for compulsory sterilization is of doubtful validity from a strictly legal standpoint. One might ask if a State could deprive its citizens of one of their basic biological rights, while every citizen has a right to live like a perfect human being. This right is more fundamental than any of the fundamental rights guaranteed under the Indian Constitution.

LAUDABLE CO-OPERATION

The rulers of our eastern neighbouring State deserve congratulation for stealing the Opposition's thunder. The latter are looking silly when the Government itself launched a complete hartal on 24th August. This is not the last word. The conglomerate Government of West Bengal is prepared to go further in this direction. If it is found that many people are not buying tickets for travelling in "our trams" the State may send some to stone the running tram cars. "The Chief Minister casting the first stone" and inaugurating the fusillade and later set fire to a few of them. If trains run late due to chain pulling by passengers, the State may pass orders not to lower the distant signal as the trains approach Howrah or Sealdah. If the State opens a black market for selling sugar at Rs. 4 a kilogram, its popularity will be assured. Officials can practise "brickbattling" and those who can lay claim to breaking glass panes of office windows at the first attempt, will get star marks in their confidential reports.

The success of the *bandh* has demonstrated its superiority to Gandhian Satyagraha, and *gheraos*. The Government of Bengal will use this weapon from time to time to prevent it from getting rusty. It is the best weapon so far discovered to beat the Central Government in Delhi with. It is the only thing that the new rulers of West Bengal has been able to achieve with complete success, and so naturally they are quite proud of it.

PLENTY FOR THE JOB

"At a meeting of the working committee of the Purnea Hindi Sahitya Sammelan on Aug. 16 it was decided to offer the services of 25,000 volunteers to the Bihar Hindi Sahitya Sammelan for the uplift of the cause of Hindi." — I.N.

Purnea has offered 25,000 volunteers to "uplift" the cause of Hindi. If the other districts of Bihar offer at least the same number of volunteers, a total of nearly half a million volunteers will be available. Even after "uplifting" the cause of Hindi enough muscular man power will be available to gherao all the teachers of English in Bihar, to consolidate the victory of Hindi.

A GOOD DEED

Those who are inclined to find fault with our erstwhile Gandhian rulers will now be full of admiration for them when they find that the anti-corruption department has discovered that rupees two crores and twenty lakhs (2,20,00,000) worth of pesticides were hurriedly ordered by the Congress rulers on the eve of general elections and when in dire need of funds. They thought "the people's food above all" and issued orders for the immediate purchase of pesticides worth nearly 2½ crores of rupees. As pesticides are not very costly, the quantity purchased for this big sum must have been of Himalayan dimensions, enough to kill all pests not only in this country but in the whole of Asia "So shines a good deed in a naughty world".

PROGRESSIVENESS CONTINUES

Mysore was known as a progressive State even during the days of British rule. The tradition has been allowed to continue as is evident from the fact that the State will discard "prohibition" from 1st September, 1967.

While there is talk in other States about dropping of Prohibition, Mysore has taken courage in both hands to thumb its nose at Morarji Desai and Tek Chand.

WHY NOT?

Industries Minister, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad, said in Parliament that some of the private industrial units were having "second thoughts" over the expansion of their units in West Bengal on account of 'GHERAOS' prevalent there. When the people of West Bengal want to de-industrialize their State by strikes, sabotage, go slow and gheraos, why can't Bihar afford asylum to those industries in West Bengal that have become apprehensive of their future safety.

Bihar Government will not tolerate the unlawful gheraos here.

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OBSERVATIONS

ARAB-ISRAEL TANGLE

★ By Sasanka Bhushan Roy ★
Retd. Dy Director of Agriculture, Bihar

The first bout of the Arab-Israel fight is over. Whether after licking their wounds they will presently come to grips again in a deadlier struggle will depend on their good sense world statesmanship.

Israel was admitted to the U.N.O. nineteen years ago as a sovereign state and the then Powers who counted guaranteed its territorial integrity. The powers however were aware of the bitter opposition of the Arab countries to the birth of this newly born baby and from the beginning there was no mistaking of signs that the Arabs were determined to smother it if they could.

The first clash was in 1947-48. The second one was what followed the Suez crisis in October 1956 when U. N. O. intervened and persuaded all the parties, Britain, France, Israel and Egypt to sign a truce. Hopes were entertained that the truce would develop into a lasting peace.

The present one is the third round and the world Powers have put their heads together to arrive at some acceptable formula for solution of the Knotty problem. The situation has all the signs of a magazine which may at any moment be set ablaze into a world conflagration.

It is futile to attempt adjudication as to who is the villain and who the innocent. Hitler and his associates could quote a bigger list of international injustices which they were subjected to, for redress of which they were forced to resort to arms. The cold war among power blocks for the last two decades during which climaxes approaching "Touch and go" affairs were not infrequent are apt illustrations. All the parties swear by their abhorrence for war, craving for peace, international tolerance but still...

A cursory glance at the events of the third conflict reveals lessons and morals, some rather novel, others confirming the old ones.

The incredible speed of action of the Israelis surpassing the first few days of the blitzkrieg launched by the Germans in 1939, the vigour, strategy and fighting technique employed, putting decisively out of action, the combined Arab army, many times their superior in the number of men and materials within four days have completely bewildered the world.

There will always be sharp differences as to what factors contributed to the amazing success of the Israelis and what led to the debacle of the Arabs and what inferences can be drawn from the military action. But certain generalisations emerge from the happenings and a few of them may be discussed here.

Propaganda cuts both ways

Every one knows and Psychiatrists confirm that the

potential strength of an individual is several times the commensurable kinetic energy. A crisis makes available a good part of the latent energy and the limit evidently is reached when it is a question of life and death. The story of a pursuing hound failing to catch the pursued hare illustrates the point.

The Arabs from the beginning have always made it plain that they want the extermination of Israel at all costs. Most of the quarrels and conflicts between nations are about trade, sphere of influence or about territorial adjustments on the borders.

But, No! The Arabs want Israelis head on a charger.

There is great doubt if this threat of complete liquidation meant to enthuse the masses has outweighed the harm done to the cause of the Arabs. President Nasser might have thought that a flamboyant unequivocal declaration would steady the not-too-firm spirit and morale of the confederacy and the masses some of whom might have exhibited symptoms of vacillation hardly concealed. It is certain that the *jihad* calls liberated a good part of the potential energy of the Israelis for self preservation and stiffened the attitude

of many non-aligned groups who would readily have entertained with sympathy any reasonable grievance on the Arab side but would not brook such unreasonable demand of total liquidation. The uncompromising attitude definitely weakened the hands of friends like Soviet, Russia and Pro-Arab countries.

The recent adverse voting against Arabs in the U.N.O. on the issue of conditional surrender of territories lately occupied by the Israelis during the four days war, confirm the conjecture.

Do not underestimate the strength of the opponent

Never underestimate the strength of an opponent in a contest. This massive is known not only to the military strategists but to the layman as well in other vocations of life. Five Moslem States (Moslem States are still credited with medioeval touchiness if not fanaticism about religion) were pitted against a small state. Israel had hardly got any time to build and consolidate since it was ushered into existence. The land comprising largely of desert land is tractable only at the cost of huge time, labour and expense. They have made phenomenal improvements in all directions but the shortness of time

(Contd. on page 302)

SPACE FOR LEISURE

By R. B. C.

Keeping in touch with nature is increasingly needful. Ancient scourges of the human race have gone, but new ones are appearing: and the greatest of these is the cutting of the umbilical cord linking man with the rest of nature.

Since a hundred years ago man has made greater material advance than in all the rest of his existence. In doing so, he has replaced the fragrance of forests and fields by the smell of combustion engines and the reek of factories; he has overrun the wilderness and has hemmed himself into canyons of buildings; he has swamped his senses with impressions utterly foreign to the natural way of life. As Fred Bodsworth wrote in *The Ontario Naturalist*: **If we go on as we are, we will destroy in the next century everything that the poets have been singing about for the past two thousand years.**

Our problem

We face the problem of providing all the varied open space and recreational needs of people who live in cities and towns.

We do not have to live in slums to be deprived of the privileges of nature. People who fled from cluttered city streets to the suburbs twenty-five years ago are now again facing other people's windows. They are searching once more for open spaces. The national parks are

not intended to fill every recreational need or interest, but rather those which provide rest, knowledge, enjoyment of nature and inspiration.

It is the tendency of our machine civilization to wipe out every trace of what was once primitive wilderness. There is a certain impiety in this destructiveness, as well as the moral illegality of using now what belongs to the future.

The preservation of natural land is essential to civilization. Only by understanding natural laws which govern soils, plants and animals, and their interrelations, can man devise the best methods of land management, agriculture, forestry, and animal husbandry. The nature reserve is a control area, where natural changes can be compared with man-made changes.

Self-renewal

Something goes wrong with man when he cuts himself off from the natural world. That is why we have such a yearning for nature that we tend flower boxes in our windows, and cultivate gardens, and grow house plants, and keep dogs and cats and goldfish and canaries.

We have not bridged the gap between our present way of life and our

(Contd. on page 302)

RED INDIANS-I

★ By A. GUPTA ★

We hear much of American Negroes and their fight for equality. As victims of colour prejudice they enjoy our sympathy and our earnest goodwill. We are horror-stricken when we hear of Negro-lynching. How formidable a task is to eradicate this horrible practice will be seen from the frank confession of the F.B.I. Chief, J.E. Hoover. It is troublesome enough to collect evidence against the Ku Klux Klan goondas, but even more difficult to secure conviction of a white for the murder of a black. Very often both the jury and the judge are openly on the side of the accused!

Yet the Negro are in no danger of total extinction as the American Red Indians are. Whatever the handicaps of the Negroes, they are vociferous and quite able to attract world attention and fight for survival. In spite of Negro-baitings, murders and lynchings, the Negro population goes up with each succeeding census. Some day in the near future they are bound to come into their own. They cannot be wiped out as a race any more than the Jews were.

But it is otherwise with the Red Indians. They suffer without a cry and die out in silence. Nobody raises a hue or an uproar on their behalf. The world is disposed to notice only those who create a tumult. It cares little for those who languish silently without raising a strident voice to declare their existence and right to exist. We find none to do a little publicity campaign on their behalf. We shut our eyes and know nothing.

Yet certain figures speak for themselves. Here is the estimated population of the Red Indians in different years.

Year	Population
1492	846,000
1865	291,574
1890	248,253
1900	237,196

It is only in the 20th century that American conscience was roused to some extent and the Government did something about the agricultural lands and other means of livelihood of these aboriginal people. The Red Indian population is now showing signs of increase. But still it is not half of what it was in 1492 when Columbus landed in America.

The Red Indian land holdings which were 137 million acres in 1887 fell to 56 million acres in 1950. A dying race unless the American Government sit up and do something!

What can the U. S. A. Government do under the circumstances? In 1891 Thomas J. Morgan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, made some suggestions. We reproduce some excerpts from his report:

"The people of this country during the past hundred years have spent enormous sums of money in Indian wars. These wars have cost us vast quantities of treasure and multitudes of valu-

able life, besides greatly hindering the development of the country, have destroyed great numbers of Indians, and have wrought upon them incalculable disaster. The record which the nation has made for itself in this sanguinary conflict is not one to be proud of.

The only possible solution of our Indian troubles lies in the suitable education of the rising generation. So long as the Indians remain among us aliens, speaking foreign languages, unable to communicate with us except through the uncertain and often misleading medium of interpreters, so long as they are ignorant of our ways, are superstitious and fanatical, they will remain handicapped in the struggle for existence, will be an easy prey to the medicine men and false prophet, and will be easily induced, by reason or real or imaginary wrongs, to go upon the war-path. An education that will give them the mastery of the English language; train their hands to useful industries, waken within them ambition for civilised ways, and develop a consciousness of power to achieve honourable places for themselves, and that arouses within them an earnest and abiding patriotism, will make them American citizens, and render future conflicts between them and the Government impossible.

"In our judgment of the Indians and of the difficulties of the Indian question, we should remember that the most perplexing element in the problem is not the Indian, but the white man. The white man furnishes the Indians with arms and ammunition; the white man provides him with whiskey; the white man encroaches upon his reservation, robs him of his stock, defrauds him of his property, invades the sanctity of his home, and treats him with contempt, thus arousing within the Indian's breast those feelings of a sense of wrong, and dishonour, and wounded manhood that prepares him to vindicate his honour and avenge his wrongs.

"We should not forget that the prime object to be aimed at is the civilization of the Indians and their absorption into our national life, and that the agencies for the accomplishment of this work are not bayonets, but books. A school-house will do vastly more for the Indians than a fort. It is better to teach the Indian to farm than to teach him to fight.

"Let us keep faith with the Indian; protect him in his rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; provide for all his children a suitable English and industrial education; throw upon them the responsibilities of citizenship, and welcome them to all the privileges of American freemen.

"The end at which we aim is that American Indians shall become as speedily as possible Indian-Americans".

(Contd. on page 300)

Mystery of Rebirth—6

★ By Prof. H. N. Banerjee ★

In our previous articles we have already tried to offer a glimpse of the vast magnitude of the problem of reincarnation.

We have seen that cases of alleged reincarnation have occurred in almost all countries of the world — we have a little more than five hundred cases under study — and that religions have failed to account consistently for their occurrence.

When religions fail to satisfy us we look toward science, but there again the physicalistic concept of personality is incompatible with the extra-cerebral memory, because the seat of memory according to science, is in the cerebrum.

Distortion

When we come across, however, good cases which in all probability appear to be real, how shall we explain them? Such a case may be due to fraud, people would say, or to distortion of memory; the last hypothesis being reincarnation. We have seen that in most of the cases we have discussed, the first two hypotheses are not tenable. Must we, therefore, jump to the hypothesis of reincarnation?

"I am a Brahmin, I am Sharma's son, my father is in Mathura".

"Do you have any brother as well?"

"Of course, I had three and one of them shot me dead."

This is part of the strange conversation held between one Gupta and his son Gopal in Delhi. Gopal was born to the family in 1956. In the course of his conversation he said that he used to live in Mathura in his previous life and had a pharmaceutical firm named Sukh Sancharak Company.

Old Resentment

The parents at first dismissed all this as sheer nonsense, but when Gopal continued repeating his statements rather insistently, his father one day spoke about his behaviour to his friends. They said that the child might be correct, as some time earlier the incident of a person being killed did take place in Mathura, when Mr. Shaktipal Sharma, proprietor Sukh Sancharak Company, was actually shot dead. Moved by this, Gopal's father went to Mathura where he could easily meet Shaktipal's family and confirm the truth or otherwise of the incident.

As Shaktipal's family members came to know that a boy in Delhi claimed to be Shaktipal reborn, Shaktipal's wife and sister-in-law started off for Delhi and visited Gopal. Gopal recognised both of them. He accosted his sister-in-law but did not speak a word to his wife.

The enquiry revealed that he was greatly displeased with his wife. When I demanded five thousand rupees, she refused to give it, and told me to have the same from the company. I went there and was shot dead by my younger brother."

Shaktipal Sharma's widow confirmed the statement.

"Here is my Shop"

Gopal was next taken to Mathura to see if he could recognise his old association. So he was left alone near Dwarka Dhish's temple and asked to lead the way to "his" home. Soon the boy came up to Sukh Sancharak Company and proclaimed loudly "Here is my shop."

Then trudging along the winding streets and lanes he soon stumbled at Shaktipal's house. "This is my house. I lived in a room upstairs," he said. In the house he recognised Shaktipal's daughter. Given an album, the boy recognised all the photographs of Shaktipal snapped in different moods, as his own.

No Motive

He was then asked about the place where he was shot. He again went to the company and pointed out the exact place, it is said, where Shaktipal was killed. He recounted in detail the location of his office, the place where, and the manner in which he was standing, the direction from which the bullet came and the part of body where it hit him.

Shaktipal's son attested the statements made by Gopal.

The case does not appear to be a fraud, because the child's parents never advertised the incident nor did they gain anything financially. A fraud must have a motive.

Nor can we explain the case away as one of distortion of memory; because every statement of the child was a verified fact. How shall we explain the various correct recognitions that the boy had made and the different behaviour towards different people. He treated the people exactly in the manner Shaktipal was expected to have treated them. Could there be some extra-sensory sources?

It is a very uneasy state of mind when we do not find an explanation, and yet we are certain that there must be one. Parapsychologists are vigorously in search of an explanation. It is certain that in the near future they will find one. If we can establish the theory of reincarnation scientifically, the explanation, when found, will give a new interpretation to religion and a new dimension to science.

New Interpretation

The entire superstructure of religion rests on the assumption, that there is a transcendental reality which is in touch with humanity and which is fundamentally spiritual in nature. Thus, religion assumes that there is an existence which is beyond the physical limits of space, time and casualty. It also has to assume that in man's personality there is a portion which is not physical but which is extra-physical.

Contemporary philosophy, which is materialistic, con-

siders, however, religious phenomena to be worthless, because they do not fit in with the physical picture of the world and with its idea of the mind which is a mere after-growth of brain activity.

To it anything in order to be real must conform to the rules of space, time and casualty.

That is why people are diffident in their attitude towards religion. In the modern age of science, religion does not mean to them what it meant to their ancestors. So religion in order to rehabilitate itself in the minds of modern men should employ a more, scientific method of enquiry than traditional metaphysical argument; for that which enters the heart — after all religion is a matter of heart — must first be discerned by the intelligence to be true.

Moral values

Parapsychology can help religion greatly if it can establish the extra-subjectiveness of religious experiences and can give it back the concept of soul which has been lost owing to the cerebro-centric view of personality propounded by psychology.

Loss of belief in the soul has transformed the opinion of the common people towards all things spiritual which were once considered enduring realities. This loss of faith, in its turn, has incited humanity to flounder in the code of social relations.

DE GAULLE'S BIG JOLT TO CANADA

By Ananta Bakshi

Perhaps, for once only in his whole life Louis XV of France thought about a section of his people left to their lot in the cold of the snowy land.

But the French Minister who signed the papers of the Treaty of Paris in 1763 remarked most callously, "It mattered not what became of a few barren acres of snow," because Canada was far away and seemed to be of little value to the French at that time.

Of course, the French monarch had the fairness to ask his royal cousin on the throne of England to allow his new subjects—the French Canadians (better be called Quebecois)—(a) to continue using the French language, (b) to worship according to the Catholic faith and (c) to maintain the Catholic Church as the State Church. But King George III did not reply. In 1766, one of the King's advisers told him that the policy of permitting the use of the French language was a blunder. But King George would not forcibly stop the people from using their mother tongue. The French Canadians, too remained loyal in difficult days and their loyalty won for them those rights which had not been written into the Treaty of Paris.

But much water has flown down the St. Lawrence since then. The French Canadians gradually found themselves in a minority in the land they colonised first; and things thereafter tended to become very different.

It would be interesting for one to observe as to how differently do the remarks of King Louis' Minister quoted above compare with those of President de Gaulle who the other day during his incomplete tour (terminated abruptly) of Canada addressed his Canadian audience at Quebec thus: "You are part of the French people. You will be what you want to be—you own masters".

"Quebec Libre" was the slogan exuberantly shouted by the President. The two significant words kindled the fire smouldering in the hearts of the French Canadians for years past.

Barren land

Canada is a vast country having an area of more than three times that of the Indian Union and a small population not exceeding two crores. There being no mountain barriers on the north, the chilly arctic winds blow directly upto the southern end and crossing the boundary penetrate into the

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Red Indians

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The report is well-intentioned. But the reader will note that the plea is for the aboriginals to give up their language, culture and religion and merge with the white population completely. The colour question would probably not hamper them so much as in the case of the Negroes. To give the devil his due, the average American white does not abhor the copper-complexioned Indian as they do the black.

Without offering any final opinion on the question of merger of the white population with the red, I would quote "some of the views expressed by the Red Indian leaders on its various aspects.

Here is what Red Jacket, Soneca Chief, said to the missionaries at Buffalo in 1805 on the question of conversion of Red Indians to Christian religion:

"Brother, you say there is but one way to worship and serve the Great Spirit. If there is but one religion, why do you white people differ so much about it? Why not all agreed, as you can all read the Book?"

"Brother, we do not understand these things. We are told that your religion was given to your forefather and has been handed down from father to son. We also have a religion which was given to our fore-fathers and has been handed down to us, their children. We worship in that way. It teaches us to be thankful for all the favours we receive, to love each other, and to be united. We never quarrel about religion.

"Brother, the Great Spirit has made us all, but He has made a great difference between His white and His red children. He has given us different complexions and different customs. To you He has given the arts. To these He has not opened our eyes. We know these things to be true. Since he has made so great a difference between us in other things, why may we not conclude that he has given us a different religion according to our understanding? The Great Spirit does right. He knows what is best for His children; we are satisfied.

"Brother, we do not wish to destroy your religion or take it from you. We only want to enjoy our own.

"Brother, we are told that you have been preaching to the white people in this place. These people are our neighbours. We are acquainted with them. We will wait a little while and see what effect your preaching has upon them. If we find it does them good, makes them honest, and less disposed to cheat Indians, we will then consider again of what you have said."

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★OUR FEDERAL SYSTEM NOW UNDER TEST★

By A. N. DAS

New Delhi: The federal system on which our Constitution is based is now being tested for the first time with Governments of differing political complexions coming into power at the Centre and in the States after the last general election.

As President Zakir Hussain in his first Independence Day eve broadcast to the nation observed, this was no extraordinary development, and indeed our Constitution envisaged and was designed for such a contingency.

The President felt that there need be no conflict between the Centre and the States, and any differences of points of view can be adjusted where there is goodwill and a desire to serve the common people.

This is not the first time that some States have gone under non-Congress Government, although the Centre has always been ruled by a single and the same political party, namely the Congress. But this is the first time that the Centre-State relationship has become a delicate issue and the constitution can be said to have been put to test.

This is probably because the ruling party at the Centre today is largely denuded of the steamroller majority that it enjoyed after the first three general elections, the slump that its leadership has suffered in stature and strength, the growing number of States that have slipped out of its hands, and also because of the complexity of political situation and the immensity of the food and economic problems facing the country.

When the first communist Government was formed in Kerala, Prime Minister Nehru declared that the Centre would treat all States at par, irrespective of political affiliations of their Governments. That declaration holds good, and although individual States might have their grievances or complaints about Plan allocations, development projects and other matters, these had little to do with the party affiliation of their Governments. There was no conflict as such between the Centre and the State on the political ground. The same position cannot be said to obtain as of today.

The relations between the West Bengal Government and the Centre have not been free from strains, the first open conflict arising over the cancellation of the May Day broadcast of the State's Labour Minister. A section of the United Front Government expressed its resentment over the appointment of the Governor and complained of Centre's interference in Naxalbari affairs.

Our Federal Constitution and democratic political system will be put to an awkward test if the threatened "Dharna" by six West Bengal Ministers before the Prime Minister's house is eventually offered. It will create a most embarrassing situation for the Union Government, and set a dangerous precedent of queer application by Ministers of a State Government against the Central Government of a political method, which never before was used by any one excepting private citizens.

Unprecedented

The proposed dharna by West Bengal Ministers has

been the subject of wide talks in the capital, and political circles seem to feel bewildered by such an unprecedented step. There is deepest sympathy felt in all quarters for the suffering of the people in West Bengal due to current food scarcity, and everybody would like the Centre to rush maximum supplies to the State to relieve the distress there.

But all are worried about the West Bengal Ministers' novel war for food on the Centre. When the Opposition members of Parliament from Kerala staged a "dharna" before the Prime Minister's house demanding more rice for that State, Opposition members of Parliament from other deficit States did not join them; not even Opposition M.P.s from West Bengal.

It is an irony of politics that West Bengal Ministers themselves should now resort to the "dharna" strategy, which was not done by Kerala Ministers. The Chief Ministers and Food Ministers of Bihar and Kerala have come to Delhi many a time to get more foodgrains for their States, and so have the Chief Minister and the Food Minister of West Bengal. But such a drastic course of action as offering "dharna" was not thought of by Ministers of the two sister States.

The President in his broadcast briefly but significantly mentioned that stability is vital now that we are at the turning point of our development programmes. The need for such stability is no where greater than at the Centre, for it is stability at the Centre that can impart stability to the rest of the country and ensure orderly progress.

There has been loose talk among the Opposition towards the close of the last session of Parliament that following large-scale defections from the Congress party in Madhya Pradesh there might be defections at the Centre also.

Chavan Rumour

Certain group alignments within the ruling party and sharp differences over controversial issues like the privy purse, dearness allowance, language question, adequate defence arrangements against Pakistan's growing military strength and the West Asian policy, presented a picture of lack of cohesiveness and purposeful leadership.

It came as a big jolt to the Congress party when it suffered a defeat in the Lok Sabha in a snap division. There was wild speculation in political circles when a Bombay daily, the Maratha, published a report that Mr. Y. B. Chavan and 50 others were leaving the Congress in the "revolutionary month" of August.

The Union Home Minister contradicted the Bombay daily's imaginative story of his defection from the Congress saying "I was born in the Congress and aspire to die in the Congress. He added

that Mrs. Indira Gandhi had reposed confidence in him and he had also the greatest regard for her as leader. Whether Mr. Chavan's contradiction has set all speculations completely at rest or not, there is little possibility of defection, unless top leaders fall apart.

The absence of a Samyukta Vidhayak Dal at the Centre is a great safeguard for the

Congress party. So long as the Opposition parties have no chance of forming a united front for the purpose of forming a viable coalition, there can be no question of dislodging the present Government. As the group alignments stand at present, there is also no question of any change of leadership, despite any idle gossip in this respect.

The Prime Minister is steering clear of group alignments within the party and is now in greater command of the situation. Her handling of the Madhya Pradesh crisis would show that even

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De Gaulle's Big Jolt to Canada

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U.S.A. The climate of the land is, therefore, intensely cold. Thousands of islands in the Arctic Ocean, desolate and ice-bound all the year round, form the northern part of the country.

Notwithstanding, Canada is not a "barren, arid land of all that snow" as had been thought of by the then French Minister and therefore sold to Britain so graciously. It is very rich in minerals, forest and agricultural products. Below the Tundra extensive forest lands exist on the eastern coastal region and in the submountain areas of St. Elias and the Coast Range on the West in between the two and further south lies the world-famous Prairie where wheat, cotton and tobacco grow in plenty. India too gets her supplies of Canadian wheat grown in the Prairie.

In the year 1604, a brave band of French people set foot on the shores of what is now known as Nova Scotia. All the early arrivals in North America had to have a powerful sense of community as they had to survive fighting against heavy odds—the combined assault of a harsh land, a harsher climate and sometimes the savage aboriginals.

The victory of the armies of the British General Wolfe in Upper Canada in 1759 had proved a turning point. English people, in large batches, began to settle in Ontario and the surrounding areas which came to be called Upper Canada. The French-ruled province of Quebec was termed as Lower Canada.

In 1841, the French and English provinces amicably signed the Act of Union that led on to Confederation. By 1843 the united provinces of Canada had its capital moved to Montreal from Quebec and the Governor General opened Parliament at Montreal in the same year. Later, the capital was shifted to Ottawa, but Montreal still remains the biggest city of Canada. Quebec began to decline in prosperity and splendour.

During the Rebellion of 1837 in Ontario Englishmen fought against Englishmen and in Quebec Frenchmen fought against Englishmen. The struggle was therefore much more serious in Lower Canada than in Upper Canada. That meant a lot of difference. Since then, the French Canadians had something new biting them.

Hitherto Quebec had been the senior partner, the largest colony in the country. But from 1837 Upper Canada (Ontario) began to rise in prominence. Soon Upper Canada had a very real majority.

The city of Quebec, favoured by nature as an Ocean port, fell so much that some people who counted often said, "It would be difficult to find a parallel for the rapidity with which Quebec has sunk from a position of commanding eminence into a place of small account commercially or otherwise."

French Canadians stopped being amiable. They were now fighting for survival. They were rapidly becoming a minority. There were some French Canadian hotheads who tried to fan the flames even after the rebellion was over.

The Union Act spelled out the new rule that all written and printed proceedings of the legislature must be in English. Many French Canadians thought that this would put an end to the use of French in Canada.

In 1842 the Durham Report spoke of two nations warring in the bosom of a single State. The said report called for the minority to be anglicised. Of course, the French Canadians were not muzzled. Their neighbours' sense of fairplay would not allow it. The authorities too showed maturity and generosity and the first Speaker of Canada after the Union was a French Canadian. Despite generousities like this, French Canadians remained unhappy and surely.

Sometime later, that Section of the Union Act which barred the use of French for government record, was repealed. But fire continued smouldering.

For some years past, the question of special status for Quebec's five million Canadians is being seriously and actively discussed. Many Quebecers conceive of themselves as a race apart with special needs and purposes.

Le Cochon Borgne, started sometime ago, is a social centre for separatists. Many of the social functions held by this club end with cries of Quebec Libre of independence. L. C. B. is one of a number of reminders that separatism is a fact of life in French Canada. R.I.N. (Rassemblement pour l'Independence Nationale), the oldest separatist organisa-

tion claims a membership of 6,000. It owns a newspaper which encourages separatism. There are frequent organised and spontaneous demonstrations and near riots. Apart from these, there are terrorist groups and secret organisations in Quebec. Sometimes, they commit murders and indulge in other crimes—all aimed at inciting separatism.

Of course, adolescents and extremists mainly play the role. But even people of sober character and matured intellect do not feel they have perfect freedom. They are unhappy with the country's Constitution—the British North American Act. These people would like to see Canada a bilingual country in true sense of the term, that is, a country in which a French Canadian would speak French to any Government official and be answered in the same tongue. The B.N.A. Act guarantees only that either French or English may be used in Parliament, Quebec legislature and Quebec courts. They want to have schools conducted in French anywhere in the country required for their children.

How strong is the movement for separatism? Workers in factories, farmers in fields and housewives in kitchens do not bother about it. Mainly, younger generation and some sections of well-educated people support the movement. According to a survey undertaken by a magazine, about three-quarters of a million are separatists. Many are of the opinion that for practical reasons of economics, complete separation of Quebec is least likely.

So far the economic grievances are concerned, it would suffice to mention that in Quebec, French Canadians constitute 83 per cent of the population yet 83 per cent of the economy is controlled by 'others'. There is also a tinge of socialism about it. R.I.N. whose President wants to take Quebec out of Canada, is a left-wing party.

Undoubtedly, there is a big dose of politics involved in the movement and the solutions that prevail in the field of politics are not always the best or soundest.

Against this explosive background as described above, President de Gaulle's provocative remarks and slogan-shouting cannot but give rise to serious, both nationally and internationally. French President's "choice of the occasion is without any international precedent.

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Arab Israel Tangle

(Contd. from page 299)

available has been a handicap.

Considering the numerical strength of the Arab confederacy bolstered by the out and out support of Soviets, short of actual participation in war, the odds were very much against Israel. The feat performed by Israel is nothing short of a miracle.

Organisation and training much more potent than man power and arms.

Land army, navy, air force, superiority of armaments employed and so many other things necessary for the Successful prosecution of war have their allocated places but priorities and comparative importances are immensely changeable. Babar won the battle of Panipat because he had guns against a bigger army with swords and spears. The factors which very much hastened the collapse of the German army during the latter part of the second World War seemed to be their inability to provide adequate air cover.

Importance of training— In this war both sides had received arms and equipments from powers unquestionably capable of manufacturing them of very high quality and effectiveness. Israel got arms from America and Britain; U. A. R. from the Soviet.

War reporters and other observers say that the Israelis definitely stole a march over the U. A. R. in putting the arms and equipments to the best advantage.

Military demonstrations in ceremonial anniversaries and other celebrations provide no correct appraisal of the battle worthiness of the equipments and the effectiveness and potency of the army going to use them. March pasts and fly pasts may be very impressive on the parade ground but those give no guarantee that such feats can be duplicated on the battle field.

Not long ago in our three week's war with Pakistan we experienced a confirmation of the fact. Pakistan with their massive array of tanks and aeroplanes obtained as gift from U. S. A. on condition that they would use them only to keep Communists out invaded Kashmir. Judged by their number and size the impression at the outset was that they would smash our Gnat planes and home made tanks in no time. President Ayub is said to have boasted that the day they began the invasion he would have afternoon tea in Srinagar. Chroniclers do not report if President Ayub went without tea that afternoon.

Within a fortnight many of those giant Patton tanks lay strewn on the fields in Kashmir and Punjab.

Espionage

Spying on the enemy is perhaps as old as human civilisation if not older. It is an art perfected by knowledge and experience handed down from generation to generation and is now practised by the astutest of men and women. A few of their authentic exploits have been filmed.

We find reference about spies and espionage in Ramayana. In 'Kautilaya's Arthashastra'—4th Century B. C. descriptions about their duties, their qualifications and how the minister in charge will arrange cross checking of the reports have been detailed. In the present Arab-Israel fight the Israelis have exhibited super-cleverness in this line. Gaining information where the weak spots lay the Israeli fighters and bombers managed to negotiate unnoticed through the radar screen and completely paralysed the nerve centre directing the movement of the planes. According to some this irrevocably turned the tide of battle.

Mobility very essential these days

Leaving behind those days when one or two pitched battles decided which side won, we come to the days of the first World War when both sides dug themselves in and advance or retreat was by yards. How the war dragged on to a finish we all know.

During the second World War, Hitler talked a lot about 'Blitz Krieg' and he demonstrated it in action to a great extent during the first part of the war. The remarkable advance armoured tank units culminating in the collapse of the French army was an acme of combined generalship and spectacular mobility.

In the Arab-Israel fight film and photo reconnaissance analysis show that most wonderful feats were performed by the Israeli air force and tank units. A large number of Arab planes and tanks were immobilised before they could engage the enemy.

Allies in war not always a help

In the Arab-Israel fight President Nasser was the generalissimo and Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Syria were the allies. Besides these they had the moral support of the Moslem states.

Soviet Russia had assured them every support moral and supply of arms. A few on the U.A.R. side mistook the generous assurance as a commitment to join them in the fight if war broke out. Soviet Russia never said that and it was silly to think that Soviet could intervene militarily without being directly provoked and considering the stakes involved.

When different sovereign states join to fight against a common enemy necessary adjustments and understandings among the different sub-commands for concerted action become extremely difficult. The generals fall out on petty matters and there is constant bickering on details. During the second World War the Germans had to pull the Italians out from quagmire in Greece and Africa. The contemporary memoirs give many stores of the constant wranglings between the officers of the two commands particularly when things began to go wrong.

The operations leading to the liberation of France culminating in the collapse

a powerful Chief Minister that Mr. D. P. Mishra was; could not influence her decision, even though he boastfully talked of being a maker of the Prime Minister.

The manner in which she stoutly defended two of her colleagues, Dr. Karan Singh, Minister of Civil Aviation and Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Minister of State for Heavy Industry against the attack of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta for their opposition to the abolition of privy purse, showed a growing confidence in her.

Mr. Bhupesh Gupta tried to pinpoint that the action of these two Ministers belonging to the princely order amounted to a campaign against the policy adumbrated by the Home Minister on the question of privy purse. But the Prime Minister stuck to the position that the Government had taken no decision on the question.

No Groupism

After the general election the so-called syndicate within the Congress party, which was a powerful factor, has gone into liquidation. So is gone the so-called kitchen Cabinet. The old combinations have changed or disappeared, and new alliances are in the offing.

But the Prime Minister today derives her main strength from the rank and file of the party. Without being involved in group alignments, she relies as much on Mr. Morarji Desai as on other senior colleagues in the Cabinet and in the party, and is trying to build up a wider base of report with individual Ministers and party members. The Hyderabad House at home by her last week-end to her junior colleagues, Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers, was an informal get-together over tea, but it had a great value in the establishment of close personal contact and exchange of views on many matters.

of Nazi Germany were conducted under a single supreme command headed by General Eisenhower. The authority, freedom of action and responsibility vested in General Eisenhower had no parallel to those which President Nasser could possibly wield in this action.

It is easier for the collaborating countries to act in unison when they are defending their own hearths and homes. Kaiser Germany's greatest grievance was that she had always been bullied, cheated and deprived of her legitimate expansion which she could rightly claim for her superiority in every sphere of life. These sentiments have been detailed in Friedrich Von Bernhardis book 'Britain as Germany's vassal' published on the eve of the first World War. The disparity on the incentives of the two sides to fight are too obvious.

For Israel to lose the fight was to lose all. For U.A.R. it was a matter of prestige and removal of grievances of a controversial nature hardly affecting their identity.

Our Federal System.....

(Contd. from page 301)

Consultations

The Prime Minister has started a process of holding widest possible discussions of all issues at various forums Cabinet meetings, party executive body meetings, party general body meeting. The number of Cabinet meetings that were held during the budget session of Parliament, was perhaps a record. Some times the Cabinet was meeting twice a day. The idea was that the Cabinet should have a clear-cut view on issues coming up before Parliament and Government members should speak with one voice.

It cannot be said that this objective of Government members speaking with one voice was fully achieved. There were occasions when Ministers spoke with different voices and expressed different views. For instance, on the issue of privy purse. The speeches and remarks of Mr. Chavan, Mr. Morarji Desai and Mrs. Indira Gandhi conveyed the impression that they expressed divergent views.

While the Home Minister declared in Parliament more than once that he endorsed the AICC resolution and that Government were examining all aspects of the question with a view to its implementation, the Deputy Prime Minister felt that assurances given should be kept. There have been other occasions also when the impression given was that the Cabinet was not of one mind or had not formulated a clear-cut view.

Foreign Policy

But broadly, the pattern that has emerged in the last three months is one of constant consultation among Cabinet Ministers. In the inter-session period also, the Cabinet is likely to be in session often than before to discuss vital economic and other issues.

Another significant change that has come over is in regard to consultation about foreign policy matters. Foreign policy had always been, since the beginning of 1947 and from the days of Nehru right up to the time of Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, a close preserve of the Foreign Ministry and of the Cabinet. Shortly after her reelection as the leader of the party, Prime Minister Gandhi wrote a letter to the Foreign Minister suggesting that important foreign policy matters should be brought up more and more before the Cabinet.

The Prime Minister, it is believed, is contemplating a further expansion of the Council of Ministers to give greater representation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

This shows that the Prime Minister is not only keen to do greater social justice to this section of the population, but she has taken prompt notice of the views and sentiments expressed about thin attendance of Congress party members in the Lok Sabha during the debate on the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Space for Leisure

(Contd. from page 299)

long past. Man, being unprepared for the machine age, is beset by nostalgia and frustrations. He goes to the national parks to renew his touch with the land from which he came, to draw strength from it, to ponder its mysteries.

A park gives us a chance to show that we are not afraid to walk and think alone. Here is our proper setting: a place where every sound, insists on normality. In the clear air of the big parks we feel stingingly alive.

There is also serenity to be found. Here a man has the feeling, as the artist Walter J. Phillips puts it so perceptively, "of having come to the place for which he has secretly longed, of having found something he had lost, lost perhaps unaware."

As you walk through a forested park you notice all sorts of things. An old fallen tree shows a wide range of activity as insects and fungi prepare the humus in readiness to start building the forest anew.

Here and there you find open glades with flowers. You keep hoping that you will come upon a clearing just at the time when the wild flowers are holding the carnival for which they were obviously designed.

But the flowers are everywhere, not only in sheltered forest clearings. In the high mountain country there is a season-long profusion of bloom so impatient that the plants scarcely wait until spring comes: the frail anemone chases the snow up the mountain slopes. Mountain plants show us how modest the requirements can be for the sustenance of life, how great the adaptability, how severe the difficulties that it is possible to surmount.

Why have parks ?

To one who is bored by the routine of vacation resorts, the national parks beckon. There are active programmes for some, contemplative opportunities for many, and glimpses of beauty for all.

The person who wants to see something different for a change can draw without paying interest on the inexhaustible fund offered by the parks. Nature holds out a welcoming hand to every sort of landscape and seascape, and in the national parks she provides sanctuaries for human beings. But it is human beings who must preserve and extend them.

An Old Testament prophet warned long ago: "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth."

And Shakespeare wrote, in *Much Ado About Nothing* :

"For it so falls out

That what we have we prize not to the worth

Whiles we enjoy it; but being lacked and lost,

Why, then we rack the value, then we find

The virtue, that possession would not show us

Whiles it was ours."

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Writers' Bid to Tackle Some Important Problems

★ By K. A. ABBAS ★

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI is reported to be planning a whirlwind tour of the country. Elaborate preparations are being made for this tour, special planes will be commissioned to transport her and her personal staff, and at the end of it will have, literally, a bird's-eye-view of India and its problems.

The Prime Minister will fly at an altitude of 30,000 feet above — REALITY !

A group of writers and poets, however, have just concluded a 5,000-mile trip through Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, UP, Bihar and Rajasthan.

Writers' Tour

They did not travel by plane, they used two and, when the number was more, three cars to transport them from one city to another, across state boundaries, passing through innumerable villages, taking their meals at wayside truck-drivers' dhabas (eating houses), stopping in cities and towns to hold mushairas and readings of short stories, and to address meetings of college and university students, fellow-writers and literary-minded workers. In all it took 22 days to complete the tour.

Among them were writers and poets from Bombay — Sahir Ludhianvi, Krishenchander, Abbas, Indivar, and (for part of the tour) Rajinder Singh Bedi and Ali Sardar Jafri; from Delhi they were joined by Sajjad Zaheer, the General Secretary of the Progressive Writers Associations, Makhdoom Mohiyuddin, the famous poet from Hyderabad, and by Raghupati Sahai Firaq, the dozen of Urdu poets; from Lucknow Ramlal, the Urdu short story writer, joined them.

But that did not prevent them, their verses and their stories, from being understood and appreciated in all the states from Madhya Pradesh to Punjab to Bihar to Rajasthan. Denied a home state, Urdu has made a home in the minds and hearts of the Indian people all over India.

Multi-Purpose

This was a multi-purpose tour, many constructive and creative consequences flowed from it.

One purpose was, of course, to collect funds for the Prime Minister's Drought Relief Fund by holding mushairas and short story readings — this was a new experiment but highly successful.

The material contribution necessarily, could not be very substantial — we were able to collect about Rs. 50,000 — but it was a token of the poets' and writers' identification with the cause of the famine-stricken people of UP and Bihar.

The equally important purpose was to create a direct living link between the writers and their readers — to inspire the people, and to be inspired by them!

These meetings with the writers assumed the form of seminars on Problems Of National Life and Literature. One such seminar was held in Delhi under the Presidentship of the well-known

Urdu novelist, Rajinder Singh Bedi, and a useful (sometimes heated and controversial) discussion and exchange of ideas took place.

The seminar in Lucknow had a particularly dramatic back-ground. The demand for the recognition of Urdu as a second official language, which many of the parties in the coalition Government have accepted but which the Jan Sangh is resisting, has led to a rather vociferous agitation and counter — agitation with some communal overtones, on both sides.

Life and Literature

After three hours of public discussion, and three hours more of private discussion, in which there was substantial give and take from both sides, a formula was evolved to which nineteen Hindi and Urdu writers set their signatures — symbolically, all signing their names both in Hindi and Urdu! This statement which has come to be known as the Lucknow Agreement reads as follows:

"We the following writers assembled in Lucknow on 11th August, unanimously declare that Hindi is our Rashtra Bhasa, and we are of opinion that all national languages should have maximum opportunity and facility for their development.

"For the State of UP, we consider that, along with Hindi, Urdu is also as a matter of fact a regional language of the state, and as such we will strive for the maximum development of both Hindi and Urdu.

"We are opposed to any hindrance being put in the way of development of Urdu and use of Urdu script. We strongly recommended that, for the proper development of Hindi-Urdu, both Hindi and Urdu styles of literatures must be included in text books of educational institutions at all the levels.

"We accept Hindi as the only official language of UP, but we equally emphasise that all facilities be given for the use and development of Urdu for all relevant and practical purpose".

The Lucknow Agreement, symbolizing the unity of Hindi and Urdu writers, was signed (among others) by three such eminent Hindi writers as Yashpal, Amritlal Nagar and Bhagwati Charan Varma, and by four such eminent Urdu writers as Firaq Gorakhpuri, Anand Narain Mulla, Sahir Ludhianvi and Krishenchander.

A similar Agreement (even more generous to Urdu) was signed by the Hindi and Urdu writers of Patna and Gaya, who also sent telegrams of congratulations to their Lucknow conferers who had shown the way.

Sidelights

The Rashtrapati, Dr. Zakir Hussain, not only sent a message but personally attended the mushaira that was held by the Chelmsford Club under the presidentship of Mr. V. Shankar. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sent a message of good wishes.

The Chief Minister of Bihar who was laid up with gout invited the writers and, in the presence of some of his Ministers, asked me to read the allegorical story about Urdu which I had read to the Patna audience the evening before.

Sahir Ludhianvi and Krishenchander were easily the most popular, and were asked to give thousands of autographs. Sahir's poems, on Nehru and on Peace were highly applauded; Krishenchander's stinging satire on Bureaucracy "Jamun Ka Darakht" everywhere brought the house down with laughter.

Miraculous

When they arrived in Bihar, the rains had worked a miraculous transformation; everywhere it was green, the paddy seedings were sprouting through water-filled fields, the signs of drought and famine were not to be seen; though later they were to see poverty stricken people also in relief kitchens. But, with the break of monsoon, the Relief Kitchens are being closed down.

The people are back at work in the fields — with

hope for the future. But the millions who have suffered under-nourishment during the period of the drought will require to be looked after. The tube-wells sprouting everywhere in the countryside ("We have just made a beginning," said the Chief Minister) are a guarantee that the famine will not occur again!

Curious

And the most curious sidelight of all: When we were going into the hall for our Allahabad function, we were greeted with black flags and shouts of "Sajjad Zaheer Murdabad", "Sahir Ludhianvi Murdabad" and "Khwaja Ahmed Abbas Murdabad". There were even attempts to attack us with sticks.

The Cause: Some communalists felt that we had betrayed the cause of Urdu! Among the demonstrators were not only Muslim communalists but also members of the Left Communist Party!! Adversity makes strange bed-fellows, and ideological bankruptcy makes for strange political association.

(By arrangement with Blitz)

Patna Diary

(Contd. from last page)

was found missing from a police station in Saran district where, subsequently a case of theft was also instituted, it was officially learnt here.

The coordination committee of the Five Party ruling United Front described the decision of the "Congress High Command to permit the Congress-Soshit Dal coalition to topple the non-Congress Government in the State as the height of unprincipled opportunism". The Chief Minister, Mr. M. P. Sinha, said after meeting that he was sure of his absolute majority in the assembly and he was prepared to face any challenge.

Bihar Cabinet Decisions Irrigation Commission For Bihar

Patna, Sept. 1. The Bihar Cabinet at its meeting here today decided to set up Irrigation Commission for the State consisting of experts of the Central Water Power Commission and the State Government to investigate the water resources of Bihar. The Commission will also draw up scheme for maximum utilisation of the water resources of the State.

Fund to Rehabilitate Ranchi Riot Victims

The Cabinet sanctioned a sum of rupees five lakhs in the first instance for the rehabilitation of persons who have suffered in recent Communal disturbances at Ranchi.

Informal Consultative Committees for Government Departments

In order to ensure greater contact of people's representatives in day to day working of various departments of the Government the Cabinet took policy decision to set up informal Consultative Committee for each department with at least nine members of the Legislature.

Rs. 56,90,000 Sanctioned for Drinking Water

Patna, Sept. 1. The State Government has sanctioned Rs. 56,90,000 for providing drinking water in Bihar wherever necessary.

The total allotment including this amount under the head of drinking water stands at Rs. 5,00,10,000.

Rs. 5,00,000 for H.M.L.S.

Patna, Sept. 1. The State Government has sanctioned Rs. 5,00,000 to the Collector of Patna for Hard Manual Labour Schemes.

The up-to-date allotment to Patna under this head stands at Rs. 45,76,796.

GANDAK PROJECT

TENDER NOTICE 157/67

Sealed tender for the following works will be received by the Superintending Engineer, Tirhut Canal Circle, No. II, Gandak Project, Bettiah upto 4 P.M. on 4-9-1967 and will be opened on the same day.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Location in R.D. of Tirhut Canal.	Division under which the work is situated	Estimated Amount
1	Construction of fall cum-Bridge	125	Bagaha I	Rs. 7.5 Lakhs.
2	Construction of D.L.R. Bridge	150.3	Bagaha II	Rs. 3 Lakhs
3	Construction of D.L.R. Bridge	152	Bagaha II	Rs. 3 Lakhs
4	Construction of C.D. Works	149	Bagaha II	Rs. 4.5 Lakhs
5	Construction of C.D. Works	160	Bagaha II	Rs. 7 Lakhs

Tender papers containing full details can be had from the office of the Executive Engineer, Tirhut Canal Division, No. II/Bettiah on payment of Rs. 50/- (non-refundable) from 23-8-1967.

★ ALL INDIA DIARY ★

Aug. 25 : The "Bangla Bandh" called by the ruling United Front of 14 political parties in West Bengal yesterday has cost the nation rupees five crores in terms of industrial production according to statistics available in New Delhi. Apart from the inconvenience caused to passengers because of the cancellation of trains the state-owned Indian Railways lost Rs. 1 crore by way of passenger and freight earnings.

Punjab and Haryana are now locked up in a controversy as to which state should have the right to occupy the Raj Bhavan at Chandigarh.

Aug. 26 : An 18-hour curfew has been imposed in Srinagar City beginning from 3 p. m. today following a clash between a police party and demonstrators, which set on fire a printing press and a shop at Shandi Square in Srinagar this morning.

The high dome of the Central Hall of Parliament, known to be one of the most magnificent domes in the world, is leaking, it is reported. After six years of work, Parliament House was formally opened on January 13, 1927 by the then Governor General, Lord Erwin the building then cost Rs. 83 lakhs.

Aug. 27 : As the situation rapidly deteriorated in the city tonight the army was called in to help maintain law and order both in Srinagar and in some surrounding disturbed areas.

Top Samyukta Socialist party leader in New Delhi today described as "exaggerated" reports from Patna regarding SSP defections from the United Front in Bihar.

Aug. 28 : Mr. S. M. Joshi, Chairman of the Samyukta Socialist Party, said today in New Delhi that the so-called defection of 30 United Front M. L. As in Bihar was "nothing but bluff".

The unutilised amount of foreign loans and credits as on April 1, 1967 stood at Rs. 1269.56 crores according to official figures released in New Delhi today.

Aug. 29 : The West Bengal cabinet has decided to further reduce the rice ration quota by 100 gramme per adult per week in the statutory rationing areas with effect from today, State Food Minister Dr. P. C. Ghosh announced.

The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Morarji Desai today agreed to make full payment in cash of the additional D. A. payable to central employees in the pay slabs ranging from Rs. 70 to Rs. 449 with effect from September 1, 1967.

The question whether Congress should be allowed to form a coalition ministry with the newly formed Soshit Dal headed by Mr. B. P. Mandal is likely to come up for a decision at the Congress Working Committee meeting to be held in New Delhi on Sept 1 and 2, it is reported.

The Government is considering the issuance of an ordinance to stabilise the prices of essential articles, it is learnt.

Aug. 30 : A fish on whose tail is inscribed a muslim prayer is now in the Ahmedabad city. The miracle fish, which has been insured with a London

firm for Rs. 10 lakhs belongs to a Gujarati businessman of East Africa. He was reportedly offered the fabulous sum of Rs. 12 lakhs for the fish, but he refused to part with it. The fish was caught off the east African coast. Mr. Anwar Hussain, a businessman of Dar-e-Salam was startled to find on its tail the Arabic inscription, "La Illaha Il-Allah" (there is but one God) words which devout Muslims intone every day. An Imam whom he consulted advised him to preserve the fish. The fish will be on view in the city from Friday.

The Asoka Mehta committee on the reorganisation of Assam is understood to have recommended separate councils of representatives for the hill districts.

The Union Home Minister Mr. Y. B. Chavan said in New Delhi today that the situation in Ranchi arising from the recent communal disturbances "has been brought under control". He was giving him impression of his one-day tour of the riot affected parts of Ranchi.

Aug. 31 : Government are understood to be considering comprehensive amending legislation both in respect of banks and general insurance to secure the benefits of socialisation, it is learnt.

The all party hill leaders conference would "outright" reject the Asoka Mehta committee's reported recommendation for the constitution of the Hill districts, into an autonomous state within Assam, according to the party's general secretary.

The Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will pay a visit to Ranchi on Sept 6 to study the situation arising out of Anti-Urdu flare up there.

PATNA DIARY

Aug. 25 : Bags of CARE milk worth about Rs. 1 lakh were seized by the police yesterday at village Keos Nizamat about 6 miles away from Samastipur and 3 persons were arrested in this connection.

Two persons were drowned while bathing in the swollen Usri river in Giridih today. There was bore in the Usri following heavy rains.

Aug. 26 : The prospects of bhadaï crops in Bihar are fairly bright according to latest official reports received at the State Headquarters from various districts. The transplantation of paddy is in progress in all the 17 districts, the reports said.

Except stray cases of stabbing, situation on the fifty day in the riot torn Ranchi improved considerably today. Army fired three rounds to disperse two groups of rioters here last night. None was injured.

Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha, Chief Minister of Bihar, today accepted the challenge of Mr. Mahesh Prasad Sinha, leader of the Congress-Opposition in Bihar Assembly and assured him that as soon as it was possible from the administrative point of view the charges that a faction of the Congress had a hand in the recent Ranchi disturbances would be proved.

Aug. 27 : Bihar politics took a dramatic turn tonight with the formation of a "Soshitdal" comprising legislators, who are leaving the ruling United Front, with Mr. Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal (SSP), Health Minister, as its leader and the acceptance of its offer by the Bihar Congress Legislature party to form a coalition with it under the leadership of Mr. Mandal.

The Bihar Government has decided to set up three co-operative cold storages in Bihar at Sonapur, Banmankhi and Biharsharif at a cost of Rs. four decimal eighty lakhs each.

The Chief Minister Mr. M. P. Sinha, told a press conference here tonight that the claim of the Congress-Soshitdal, coalition that it had gained majority in the State Assembly was a big hoax. He maintained that the ruling United Front still commanded absolute majority in the Assembly.

Aug. 28 : Mr. B. P. Mandal, M. P. who has defected from SSP and resigned from the Bihar United Front Ministry and formed the Soshit Dal, released tonight the names of 25 members of the Assembly, who had left SSP, Janakranti Dal, Jana Sangh and PSP and joined his Dal.

Mr. Raj Narain, MP, SSP leader, told a press conference here tonight that quite a number of influential Congressmen had said to him today that they would foil any attempt to topple the present United Front Ministry as they

were not interested in saving some corrupt former Ministers from the consequences of the enquiries that were being held against them. He did not elaborate.

Aug. 29 : The order under section 144 cr pc promulgated in Patna banning meetings, processions, assembly five or more persons and the carrying of weapons on August 23 has been extended for another week beginning from today by the Sadar Subdivisional Officer.

The river Ganga, which had started receding last week after playing havoc in Monghyr district, was rising fast again. Yesterday's level had surpassed the past five years' record, according to official sources.

A judicial enquiry would be held by a high court judge into the causes and circumstances of the Ranchi disturbances, Mr. M. P. Sinha, Chief Minister of Bihar announced here tonight.

The Union Home Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, told a press conference at Ranchi tonight that the impression he had gathered during his visit to Ranchi today that the disturbances here were "organised and pre-planned."

A meeting of all the 25 communist (right) members of the Bihar Assembly belonging to the ruling United Front held here today denounced what it described as "the latest conspiracy of the Congress Party to topple the popular coalition Govt. by engineering communal riots and by enticing certain members of the Front".

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, MP, SSP Leader, told a press conference here this evening that the ministerial crisis caused by the defection of Mr. B. P. Mandal, M.P. who formed the Soshitdal and entered into a coalition with Congress, was over.

Ranchi is fast returning to normalcy and today 95 percent of the shops in the various shopping centres of the town opened. People moved freely and went round daily avocations. Curfew was further relaxed tonight and it will be in force from 10 p.m. to five a. m. The number of injured since the disturbances started in Ranchi, Dhuruwa and Doranda total 109 and total number of deaths to 72.

Aug. 31 : The Bihar Governor has prorogued both the houses of the Bihar Legislature, it is officially announced.

Mr. B. P. Mandal, M. P. leader of the newly formed Soshit Dal, today welcomed the reported decision of the Congress President, Mr. Kamaraj, on the formation of the coalition of the Soshit Dal and the Congress legislature party in Bihar, conveyed by the leader of the State Congress Legislature party, Mr. M.P. Sinha, on telephone from Delhi to Mr. Kedar Pandey, Chief whip of the party.

Government money, amounting to Rs. 32,000

(Contd. on page 203)

BOOK REVIEW:

SANCHITA — A Bengali quarterly magazine. Annual subscription Rs. 3. Published by an editorial board. Address :— Patna-3.

Exuberant energy and enthusiasm of some bright young men leads to publications of magazines of this sort, but ultimately they all succumb to inexorable economic factors. We are not saying this to damper the ardour of the galaxy of young men forming the editorial board of this new magazine, but only to warn them of the rocks and shoals that lie ahead of young pioneers.

The pride of place has rightly been given to Professor Rangin Haldar's curtain raiser — *Bengali-Hindi-Urdu* in which he has traced the genesis of Hindi and Urdu. The article is topical as it appears at a time when the Hindi-Urdu controversy has raised its ugly head in Bihar, leading to the death of nearly 50 persons

and injuries to about a hundred. Professor Haldar makes it clear that both Hindi and Urdu are basically the same language, but with different vocabularies. How this has come about is explained by him in his erudite 10-page article.

Next comes the disappointingly short story by *Banaphul* (Dr. Balai Chand Mukherjee) of Bhagalpur. Dr. Mukherjee is regarded as the Cronin of Bengali literature and readers of *Sanchita* will not be satisfied with a storylet from his pen in future. Nripendra Nath Ray Choudhury has written an article on Bhojpuri love songs. This draws attention to a very useful work which can be done by Bengali residents of Bihar in collecting and publishing annotated folk songs of different parts of Bihar.

Follows Dr. Archana Mazumdar's "Love in Rabindra

novels", a searching critique. Deb Prasad Ghosh's article on *Bengali Society in Hazaribagh* is interesting reading and similar articles on other important cities of Bihar should be forthcoming. While some of their oldest citizens are still living and can provide materials to young writers. Dr. Niranjan Chakrabarti's "Letter from the Capital" is a frank exposure of life in New Delhi.

A novel feature of *Sanchita* is a forum inviting all and sundry to write criticisms of articles published in the magazine in earlier issues. We are unable to approve this novelty. If writings of elderly writers are subjected to merciless lashing by youthful iconoclasts, it will be difficult to induce people to write in the magazine in future.

Editorial comments provide the finishing touch.