

Behar Herald

DELHI WARMLY GREETS BREZHNEV

New Delhi No. 30 : The Soviet Communist party chief Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, received on Monday a welcome unsurpassed in recent years for its spontaneous popular enthusiasm.

A 21-gun salute, an inter services guard of honour and all other honours customary for a head of state greeted Mr. Brezhnev who arrived here this morning by an Ilyushin-62 jet plane for a five-day friendly visit. As the plane in its blue and white livery touched down, scores of flag-waving enthusiasts shouted a full-throated welcome.

The airport reception was remarkable for the participation of a large number of people from all walks of life, including leaders of major opposition parties in Parliament. A steady stream of people, among them hundreds of school children, made their way to Palam since early morning in various modes of transport including bullock carts and tractors.

As Mr. Brezhnev came out of his Aeroflot plane Mrs. Gandhi greeted him with folded hands. She was followed by her senior colleagues and the Mayor of Delhi.

As Mr. Brezhnev took his stand at the saluting base, massed bands rendered national anthems of the two countries. Following this, he was introduced to the council of ministers. He then moved on to the special enclosures for diplomats, MPs., distinguished guests and the Press to receive their greetings. In a significant departure from the usual form, M.Ps returned Mr. Brezhnev's greetings with slogans in support of Indo-Soviet friendship.

In a brief but significant speech at the airport, Mr. Brezhnev said the peoples of the world today were expecting statesmen and political leaders to take concrete action to facilitate peaceful co-operation between countries.

He felt his coming talks with Indian leaders would promote that goal.

As Mr. Brezhnev put it, friendship between the peoples of India and the Soviet Union was "of no small importance," for peace and security in Asia and the world. The true aim of his visit was the further consolidation of the friendship and expanded co-operation between the two countries.

In her welcome statement, made in Hindi, Mrs. Gandhi described Mr. Brezhnev as a distinguished leader of a great friendly country and recalled his visit to this country 12 years ago.

During this period, she said, India and the world had undergone vast changes and the Indo-Soviet friendship had grown strong. The foundation for the friendship between the two countries was laid far back during

Giri to visit Gaya on Dec 8

Gaya Nov. 30 : President V. V. Giri will visit Gaya on Saturday December 8 to lay the foundation stone of Magadh Medical College Hospital. The function will be held at 3.15 P. M. on that day at the hospital site on the Gaya-Sherghaty road.

his hand. He is accompanied by the Soviet Foreign Minister Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the politburo member and chief of the Kazakhstan communist party, Mr. Din



L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU

India's struggle for independence.

She said both countries had since been marching towards socialism and peace. Both countries held identical views vis-a-vis imperialism and colonialism, and both were equally keen on promoting peaceful international relations. Exchange of visits between leaders of the two countries contributed to this common goal.

The 16-km-long ceremonial route from the airport to the city was lined by large crowds, specially at vantage points. They raised slogans hailing Indo-Soviet friendship as the Soviet leader accompanied by Mrs. Gandhi slowly drove by in a six-door limousine. Welcome arches draped in the national flags of the two countries, and banners with appropriate slogans were in view at several points from the airport to the city giving the Capital a festive touch.

Mr. Brezhnev reciprocated the greetings by saying a few words in English or waving

Muhammed Kunayev, and other senior party and government officials.

The Soviet mass media has made elaborate arrangements to cover Mr. Brezhnev's visit. His arrival ceremony was telecast live in colour to Moscow via a Soviet satellite. As many as 110 tonnes of equipment were flown in here by 12 planes to prepare the ground facilities to give the biggest ever television coverage of the visit of a foreign dignitary to India.

Mr. Brezhnev laid wreaths at Raj Ghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat on Monday afternoon before starting on his talks with Mrs. Gandhi at South Block.

Brezhnev's assurance

Mr. Brezhnev on Tuesday assured the Indian people that his country would stand by them at all times, particularly in times of adversity.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi reciprocated by acknowledging "gratefully" the assistance that the Soviet Union had extended to India

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FULL SELF-RELIANCE BY 1985-86 ENVISAGED

New Delhi, Nov. 30 : The Fifth Plan document sets 1985-86 as the year to achieve full self-reliance.

According to the long-term perspective embodied in the Plan, India should be in a position to meet the maximum amount of her foreign exchange requirements including debt servicing from her own resources by 1985-86 thus obviating the need for any significant inflow of concessional aid.

There should, however, still be room for inflow of foreign capital but on normal commercial terms.

The policies and measures contemplated in the Fifth Plan for improvement in balance of payments will make it possible to progressively approach full self-reliance during Sixth Plan period and the first two years of the Seventh Plan, the document adds.

The Planning Commission says that by 1985-86, economic growth would be basically self-sustaining at a growth rate of 6.2 per cent per annum which would be the highest ever attained by the economy.

The Plan document emphasises the importance of vigorous and sustained export for self-reliance and says the export target would have to be maintained at 7.6 per cent during the Fifth and Sixth Plan periods.

It says that inadequate rate of growth so far is responsible for the failure to make a dent on poverty. The average rate of growth in the Fourth Plan period is put at 3.7 per cent per annum as against the target of 5.5 per cent. Considerable reduction in prevailing inequality in consumption is necessary for removal of poverty, the Commission adds.

The Commission's long-

Aga Khan donates land to Gandhi Memorial

Poona, Nov. 30 : The Aga Khan on Sunday donated three and-a-half acres of land adjoining the historic Aga Khan Palace here to the Gandhi National Memorial.

He also announced a personal donation of Rs. 30,000 to the memorial on the occasion.

The Aga Khan Palace, built by Prince Karim's grandfather, has been already donated to the memorial. It now houses a picture gallery depicting the life and public activities of the father of the nation.

It was in this palace that Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba were interned for 22 months by the British during the "Quit India" movement. Kasturba died in the palace while an internee and was cremated in the open space in the vast compound of the palace.

term perspective assumes that India would produce more steel and, being the cheapest producer in the world, get a due share in world exports. The long coast line must be fully exploited for building up exports of marine products. Leather goods, engineering goods, handicrafts, particularly precious stones and jewellery, and iron ore are among the export items with great potential for the future, the Commission notes.

The foreign exchange gap in the Fifth Plan, after providing for at 7.5 per cent growth rate in exports and imports, is estimated at Rs. 4,008 crores to be bridged by foreign aid.

The total exports in the Fifth Plan period are estimated at Rs. 12,580 crores and imports Rs. 14,100 crores. The current account deficit is estimated at Rs. 2,231 crores and the capital account deficit at Rs. 1,777 crores making a total of Rs. 4,008 crores.

The national programme of minimum need incorporated in the Fifth Plan envisages a "frontal attack" on the problem of social consumption by providing certain minimum facilities on a broadly uniform basis throughout the country.

The programme covers provision of facilities for elementary education upto the age of 14 at nearest possible places, minimum uniform availability of public health facilities, drinking water in scarcity areas, all-weather roads to villages with a population of 1,600 persons or more, provision of home sites for landless labour in rural areas, improvement of slums, and electrification to cover 40 per cent of rural population.

An outlay of Rs. 2,805.79 crores has been made for the programme. This excludes Rs. 30 crores provided for support programmes under elementary education and Rs. 400 crores under rural Electrification Corporation was urged that the outlays for each item at the States level should ensure that relatively backward areas receive a large share of available resources.

Stating that foreign equity investment in lieu of impeded plant or knowhow is the "least desirable" in terms of longterm impact on balance of payments, the Planning Commission says foreign

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LAW AND ORDER SITUATION

Much has recently been said about the deteriorating law and order situation in Bihar. Long political instability in the State has encouraged the lawless elements and it is no wonder that they are taking the full advantage of the situation. Recently reports have been received of a sudden spurt in crime wave from many parts of the State, particularly in the industrial areas. There have also been cases of agrarian clashes and murders of agricultural labourers and share-croppers in which some of the most affluent sections of people have been involved. The bluff of blaming the Naxalites for these incidents has been called off. Conditions of want and scarcity may offer an easy incentive to the hungry people to appropriate by force what does not legally belong to them. That does not mean that they are Naxalites. Most probably where such incidents have really taken place, the participants do not belong to any political party because they have hardly any political training and in a society where procurement of two square meals a day is the biggest problem before a large number of people, tenets of law and morality do not have much meaning. This must not be construed as incitement to violence. But our country has produced Buddhas and Gandhis and here people prefer to die of hunger and looting shops stacked with foodstuffs is something unimaginable to them.

Generally speaking these sections of people and the petty criminals are not a problem with the State's police force. They are more troubled with the more affluent sections of people who are the organisers of crime. It is these people who adulterate foodstuffs, baby food, medicines and every conceivable article of daily necessity. Fabulous amounts of money are spent in this business. Chemists are employed to find cheap adulterants and it is run by the most affluent sections of society. Smuggling activities have become a regular and recognised trade in Bihar and these also are financed and managed by rich people who engage an army of smugglers. Pilferage of antiquities has become rampant in Bihar and this also is operated by immensely rich people. The amount of money transferring hands in this trade is said to be several crores of rupees every year. The smugglers, many of them very highly connected, acquire these precious art objects through a hierarchy of operators, reaching down to gangs of burglars, who are usually paid very paltry sums for their nefarious work. Many of these gang leaders are in league with custodians of temples and museums. It is always the moneyed people who gain. The people as well as the police know who these adulterators, hoarders, blackmarketeers and smuggler kings are. But while the people are afraid to supply the information, (who will protect them when the police are gone), the police are reluctant to grab them partly because of paucity of proof and largely because of the fact that many of them also are in their pay. The police, in our country, particularly in Bihar, have no reputation for honesty. Instances of police officers threatening newspapermen with dire consequences if reports of their misdeeds are published in newspapers have come to light. Policemen are said to be in league with wagon breakers. The people also are afraid of the police and like them to be kept at an arm's length, for the popular saying goes that a touch by a policeman will leave eighteen scars. Besides, there is the question of political pressure. The arrest of some of them may result in seriously disturbing the hornet's nest and trunk telephones will be busy between the State capital and Delhi.

The Police Department is notorious for its dilatoriness. Mr. Radha Nandan Jha, Bihar's Minister of State for Home and Police, recently said at Patna that a special cell for the investigation of cases was being created in the Police Department. Mr. Jha said that more than 50,000 cases are lying pending for want of police investigation. The police explanation is that the force is inadequate. Bihar has lesser number of policemen per 100 square mile area than some other States. Besides, it has to guard a vast international border. The border police force has not been reinforced. The police stations have not been modernised, nor have the recommendations of the Police Commission been implemented. Bihar requires a more efficient police force, officered by honest and hardworking people, and armed with modern equipment and quicker transport and information facilities. Bihar Police Manual rules are being radically changed so as to make them comprehensive, rational and practical in tune with the changed context of things, it was reported some time back. But the greatest need is to change the police-public relations radically. And it is for the Police Department to develop better police-public relationship by removing the sense of distrust in them from the people's minds.

FULL SELF-RELIENCE..

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investments should be permitted only where continuous access to essential technological improvement is necessary and cannot be secured by any other means or where management inputs not readily available. When these conditions are met, normal maximum level of foreign equity should be 40 per cent.

Where foreign investment is considered, acceptance by the foreign investors to set up research and development facilities to permit the Indian company to develop eventually internationally accepted levels of knowhow could be a favourable factor.

In technology sale agreements special provision should be made for assistance to the Indian partner in building up his own R and D.

The Planning Commission notes that under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, the companies which have more than the requisite foreign holdings but are not engaged in industries open to them under the Industrial Licensing Policy on February 1973, would have the option to reduce their foreign share holdings or branch out into lines of investment conforming to the licensing policy. In undertaking such expansion programmes they will have to follow norms regarding dilution of foreign equity as already laid down. Other companies in this category engaged in trading, consultancy and similar non-manufacturing activities in which adequate expertise is available in the country, will have to restructure their activities to fall in line within the framework of the policy on foreign investment or alternatively have to reduce their share of foreign investment.

In general the Commission adds, it would be expected of all foreign companies to contribute to the fullest extent to the achievement of the country's industrial, economic and social objectives. They should direct investments into areas to which priority is attached in national plans, contribute towards improving balance of payments position through exports and import substitution, fall in line with dilution of foreign equity in accordance with the guidelines, train and appoint Indian personnel in management at all levels with sufficient delegation, of powers and set up R and D facilities in the country.

In regard to foreign technical collaboration, the Commission says the approach to it should be an integral part of the total technological strategy for the Plan which envisages a mix of imported and indigenous technologies in which the proportion of the latter must increase with time. Technologies so developed indigenously must be properly evaluated against competing technologies available abroad and then utilised. This might need investment in pilot plants or prototype equipment.

The Rs. 53411 crore Fifth Plan which goes before the National Development Council meeting here on Dec. 8 and 9, provides for an outlay of Rs. 19,577 crores in the Central and Rs. 17,673 crores

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at critical junctures. The two leaders were speaking at a "massive reception" accorded to the visiting Soviet leader at the historic Red Fort by a Citizens' Committee headed by Congress President Shantkar Dayal Sharma. Vice-President G. S. Pathak was in the chair.

Mr. Pathak, Dr. Sharma and Delhi Mayor K. N. Sahani joined the two leaders in stressing the need for further strengthening the Indo-Soviet friendship which they felt was not only beneficial to the two countries but was essential for world peace.

In a 75-minute address in Russian Mr. Brezhnev said that the socialist countries' love for peace had led to the lessening of tension in the world. But the threat of atomic warfare still loomed, he added.

He warned that if there was a third world war, no continent would escape destruction.

In an impassioned plea for peace, he said: "let us respect each other's sovereignty and integrity. Let us not interfere in each other's affairs and let us try to abjure the use of force in settling mutual problems".

A roar of applause went up from the vast multitude, as he declared that the Indo-Soviet friendship was "an indivisible part" of his country's foreign policy.

Mr. Brezhnev said the talks between him and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on cooperation in various fields were progressing most satisfactorily.

in the States sectors. The Plan provision for Union Territories is Rs. 600 crores.

The outlay in the private sector is estimated at Rs. 16,161 crores of which the share of the corporate sector should be Rs. 5,261 crores, the rest being contributed by the agricultural cooperative and household sectors.

The total investment in gross capital formation is estimated at Rs. 47,561 crores and current outlays account for Rs. 5,850 crores taking the overall Plan size to Rs. 53,411 crores at the 1972-73 prices. (A further exercise on resources in the light of 1973-74 price trends is due to be undertaken in February 1974, before the final Plan document is published).

The Plan assumes additional resource mobilisation of Rs. 6,850 crores—Rs. 4,300 crores by the Centre and Rs. 2,550 crores by the States—and gross foreign aid to meet the balance of payments gap of Rs. 4003 crores during the five-year period (1974-79). The provision for the national minimum needs programme is Rs. 2,303,79 crores.

Net foreign aid estimated at Rs. 1151 crores would constitute a small portion of total resources required for development. Net aid would be 3.5 per cent of total investment and 4.6 per cent of public sector investment envisaged in the Fifth Plan as against 8.2 per cent and 13.6 per cent respectively in the Fourth Plan.

At the time of his last visit, he said the last vestige of imperialism had just been wiped out from India.

(Mr. Brezhnev was apparently referring to the liberation of Goa on which the Soviet Union had fully supported India).

During that visit he had been to several places like Calcutta, Madras, and Jaipur. He would not forget the reception he received at these places.

Mr. Brezhnev who is on a five day visit here, said that this time he would not be visiting any other places in India.

Trade Expansion

Mr. Brezhnev also recalled his meeting with Mr. Nehru during the last visit.

He called for expansion of the mutual cooperation in the fields of economic growth, science and technology. His country's assistance to India's planned development could help improve the living standard of the people here.

On the expansion of trade between the two countries, he said there might be some countries which might not like India's desire to become self-reliant. But the Soviet Union was all for India achieving self-sufficiency in all fields and was willing to extend all possible cooperation in achieving this goal.

Amidst prolonged cheers, the Soviet leader remarked "I can say with full confidence that our friendship has stood the test of time."

Besides, the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty had proved its worth in relation to the security of the two countries and world peace.

He said the treaty had given "a new turn" to the friendly relations between the two countries.

Mr. Brezhnev said that the current round of talks here demonstrated that the two countries were keen on further improving the existing friendly bonds between them.

Mr. Brezhnev said that the Soviet Union would collaborate with India in putting India's first satellite in orbit in the near future.

Mrs. Gandhi

Speaking immediately after Mr. Brezhnev the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi expressed India's gratitude to the Soviet Union for helping her in times of need. In this context she particularly referred to the sympathy and understanding shown by the Soviet Union during the Bangla Desh crisis and the Indo-Pak, war which followed it.

She said this understanding and cooperation from a great nation gave us a new courage. Mrs. Gandhi made it clear that the Indo-Soviet friendship was not directed against any country. The treaty of friendship was a big step for peace and justice in the world.

Mrs. Gandhi said while India's path was different from that of the Soviet Union, the two countries had identical views on many subjects, including maintenance of

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HE RODE HIS WAY INTO A ROYAL HEART

★ By Pearson Phillips ★

It began, curiously enough, at a place where a previous royal romance ended. Eridge Park, the country seat near Tunbridge Wells of the Marquis of Abergavenny, was the house in which the paths of Mark and Anne first crossed.

It was also the place which offered Group Captain Townsend bed and breakfast when, in 1955, he made his farewell visit to Princess Margaret who was staying nearby, shortly before she issued her final melancholy announcement that duty had triumphed over personal considerations.

Horsemanship, not Statesmanship

The Nevill family (of whom the Marquis is the head) has been performing this kind of service for the Royal Family since the Middle Ages. The family has long been involved in affairs of Church and State.

But it is horsemanship rather than statesmanship, which has captured the interest of the present Marquis.

He has involved himself with the Ascot Authority, the National Hunt Committee and the British Horse Society. He has also made Bridge Park available for an important annual horse trial, at which, in 1963, Princess Anne competed with some success.

Thus, when the Marquis gave a dinner in honour of the Olympic horsemen and women who were about to leave for Mexico, it was natural that the Princess should be there.

It was, however, something of a fluke that Mark Phillips was present.

Dame Chance arranged their first meeting

He had not originally been picked to be a member of the British Olympic party. An experienced rider named Sheila Wilcox had been named as reserve. But she declined and Mark Phillips was made reserve instead.

That was the first meeting of Mark and Anne. It certainly was not the start of their romance.

Mark, then a cadet at Sandhurst was quiet and shy. For Anne, who had then just left school, it was the extroverts who were interesting.

When, the following summer, she galloped down the course at Royal Ascot, the man riding beside her on a borrowed police horse had indeed a guest at the Eridge Park dinner party.

But he was not Mark Phillips. He was the British Olympic hero Richard Meade.

It was to be nearly four years before Mark and Anne started "to see each other."

When the engagement was announced, the two things about Mark's family attracted public attention. One was that his father was connected with the Walls sausage and ice-cream company: the other was that on his mother's

side, he was descended from the Tiarks.

The Tiarks family is certainly one of distinction.

Its British history stems from a certain Rev. Johann Gerhard Tiarks who came to the United Kingdom from Holland in 1890 as a Lutheran pastor in the City of London. He became the chaplain and special friend and confidant to the Duchess of Kent, Queen Victoria's mother, the person most responsible for the future Queen Victoria's education and upbringing.

The descendants of the Reverend Mr. Tiarks tended to be either bishops or bankers. Their place in Victorian and Edwardian Britain was assured.

Rags-to-riches saga of family

The Phillip of the family has a very different story—a rags-to-riches saga of the sort which makes television series.

It begins in 1858 with a nine-year-old boy called William Garside Phillips. Marks Phillips's great-grandfather.

This lad's family had for generations been miners in Lancashire, and for him, like many other boys in that situation, the arrival of his ninth birthday meant that it was time for him to go down the pit.

But young William had other ideas. Encouraged by his mother Eliza, who was a hatter's daughter and therefore not totally imprisoned by the fatalism of the mining community, he set about improving himself.

This meant going to night school after his shift—with an eight mile walk to the school, and eight mile back. He eventually qualified for a mine manager's certificate and, after fourteen years underground, was given an office job as a bookkeeper. He married a wheelwright's daughter from Hyde, Cheshire.

His big chance came with the opening up of collieries further south, in Warwickshire. A colliery at a place called Ansley Hall near Nuneaton was not doing well. It had trouble with flooding. So in 1879, at the age of thirty, William Garside Phillips was sent to Ansley Hall as manager with instructions to sort things out. Within a year the colliery was paying.

But his ambition was to own a mine, not just to run one. In a few years the Ansley Hall Coal and Iron Company was reorganised and William Garside Phillips emerged as managing director with a large slice of the shareholding.

From then on he became a legendary figure — "Field Marshal of the Warwickshire Coalfield" was how the Nuneaton Chronicle described him when he died aged 80 on New Year's Day in 1929.

Rode horse at the age of four

After the war, the Phillips dynasty in Warwickshire, with its old-fashioned paternalism towards its workers, was clearly bearing its end.

The Art Of Daniel Defoe

★ By Lina Guha Ray ★

The unique position held by Defoe in English literature has never been questioned. With him fiction makes a new start and the picaresque narrative and romances of the past are brought down from the heights of plastic imagination to be embedded in solid earth. The novel which had hitherto been nothing but a matter conjured up by a weak imagination—a conglomeration of heterogeneous facts is moulded into a separate art form. In the course of one man's diverse writings we see narratives of travel into unknown regions, history and descriptions of real and alleged facts taking on a certain cogent form.

Defoe was one of the first Englishmen to write prose which had a story form. The wonderful adventures of Robinson Crusoe—that marvel of prose fiction, the journeys of Singleton, the adventures of the endearing Col. Jack have power to fascinate the reader.

"The source of the strange pleasure cannot be traced. Enough that the pleasure exists. Much of this pleasure depends on the manner in which Defoe treats his theme. His is the circumstantial method of narrative which is so potent in creating realistic atmosphere. Much of it depends on his persuasive art of repetition. In the *Journal of the Plague Year* to bring

There was no future in mining for Marks father — Peter Phillips. When he left the Army he went into farming. He studied at Cirencester Agricultural College and took a place of 367 acres called Hill Court at Long Green, near Tewesbury.

He was the country gentleman. He and his wife hunted with the Ledbury and it was a natural thing that their son Mark — born in the Cotswold Nursing Home near Tetbury on September 22, 1948 should, early in his life have a pony.

His mother Anne says she put him in the saddle when he was eighteen months old, holding him there to see if he liked it. At the age of four, he was riding on his own.

Around 1957 there came the first major upheaval in his life. The farm had been doing badly. Peter Phillips says that he "made some mistakes it was difficult to rectify", and that he was "under-capitalised."

The family moved to Great Somerford, Wiltshire, their home today. Mr. Phillips put aside his gumboots and got a job as local area manager with Walls.

Intense love for sports

Mark was sent to a charming and cheerful establishment called Stolls Hill, a prep school which has all the attributes of a gleeful junior country club.

The range of sports offered is astonishing—soccer, rugby, athletics, shooting, fishing, riding, sailing, rowing, swimming, cricket, hockey, tennis. They do some work as well, but the emphasis is sporting rather than academic.

—By arrangement with the Blitz

home the horror of the pestilence he says "it was indeed very dreadful". Immediately we are enveloped in gloom and terror. This helps to constitute "the true mimesis — the unreal real re-creations which gives the things their spell".

The range of a writer is usually determined by his background and Defoe is no exception. For the first time the middle and lower classes in England saw themselves—their ideas and interests, their joys and sorrows portrayed in a large scale. Here was someone who was genuinely interested in them. It is not, however, in the range or power to tell a story that makes Defoe's writings impressive. In a novel the most "important expression of creative imagination lies in the character" and it is in this that Defoe can truly be called the father of the English novel. Here for the first time there is a psychological portrayal of character. Defoe describes Col. Jack as a "poor, unhappy, tractable dog willing enough and capable too, to learn anything, if he had had any but devil for his schoolmaster." The Captain was "shy, sullen, reserved, malicious and resentful; and withal he was brutish, bloody and cruel in his disposition." The Major was a most "engaging lad, merry facetious, pleasant with a good share of wit and had something of the gentleman in him." He "could look death in the face without any hesitation" and "he wanted nothing but honesty to have made him an excellent man."

It is because of this wonderful psycho-analysis of character that Lamb found Col Jack "the most affecting nature picture of a thief ever drawn." The scene where this young boy finds the money he believes is lost for ever, has a haunting quality and lingers long in our memory—"I was but a child, for I hollord quite out around when I saw it, then I ran to it, and snatched it up, hugged and kissed the dirty rag a hundred times; then danced and jumped about, ran from one end of the field to the other and, in short, I knew not what much less do I know now what I did though I shall never forget the thing, either what a surging grief it was to my heart, when I thought I had lost it, or what a flood of joy overwhelmed me when I had got it again."

While I was in the first transport of my joy, as I have said I ran about and knew not what I did; but when that was over I sat down, opened the foul clout the money was in, looked at it, held it, found it was all there, and then I fell acrying as savourily as I did before when I thought I had lost it."

Defoe gave us human histories not galleries of human characters. And since "he always seems to be speaking the unvarnished truth, his people, what they do and what befalls them and the world in which they move seem actual as the world of our own situations."

In the Apparition of Mrs.

Veal Defoe uses methods of winning confidence to bring the truth home to the reader. As Sir Walter Scott points out the truth of the matter depends on the way the author remains absent. The happening is related by "a gentleman, a justice of the peace at Maidstone" and attested by "a very sober understanding gentlewoman" who lived we are told a few doors off Mrs. Bargrave who heard the news from her. Thus it is the characters who attest these facts to make them plausible—and so they are.

Again there is a certain amount of impartiality in Defoe's narration. He gives us unnecessary details and minute trivialities which are so important in lulling suspicion. He speaks of Mrs. Bargrave a person of "sweet disposition notwithstanding the ill-usage of a very wicked husband" This together with the details of the conversation with the gentle ghost help in stating the truth of the matter. It is however in the description of Mrs. Veal's dress of "scoured silk" in which she appears after her death that Defoe's mastery of his art can be perceived. Mrs. Veal's friend Mrs. Watson on hearing that Mrs. Bargrave had actually touched the sleeve of Mrs. Veal's gown which was made in scoured silk said "you have seen her indeed" for "I helped her to make it up".

The Memoirs of a Cavalier read like a piece of authentic history. Here Defoe has mustered details and particulars from facts which make modern readers feel it is history and not fiction that they are reading. He dwells with great detail on the topographical features not forgetting the part military tactics has to play. The facts of the battle of Marston Moor may not be historically accurate but as a lucid narrative of a stricken field it is moving.

These powers of narration are bettered in *The Journal of the Plague Year*. Here is something full of dramatic energy as well as vivid realism. Here also prosaic evidence alternate with horrible events that took place on that terrible year. Here is exactitude as well as atmosphere. Gloom pervades throughout the journal. Here in front of our eyes are pictured a city of dying and the dead, of haunting fear and bitter misery. The slow tolling of the hellman and his ghastly cry of "bring out your dead": "the piling of the bodies on the cart to be shot indiscriminately into the public grave — all are invested with the macabre."

The poignant scene at the burial ground where a man has come to bury his whole family who had died of the plague haunts us for a long time — "no sooner did he see the sight but he cried out aloud unable to contain himself. I could not hear what he said but he went backward two or three steps and fell down in a swoon." Here is Defoe at his best — concise

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AN EXPERIMENT YET TO SUCCEED

★ By Tirthankar Mukherjee ★

Forty miles from Jaipur on the way to Tonk, there is a sharp turn to the right and a big arch door welcomes you. Move on for a couple of miles and there will come into your ken hints of human habitation—planned bushes and thatched roofs, a busyness in the air and purposeful crows.

The road goes straight and on either side are hostels named after all States and territories of the Indian Union, besides Nepal. You are in Banasthali Vidyapith, a premier educational institution exclusively meant to develop the hand that rocks the cradle so that it may one day rule the world.

The Vidyapith was formally founded in 1935 though it took some more years to get really going. Nehru came in 1945 and said "had he been a girl he would have studied there. He might have spread his enthusiasm, for Gandhiji came the next year and said, "Banasthali is enshrined in my heart".

Almost thirty years have passed since then and the institution has kept on growing. It is now a registered society and enjoys a statutory autonomous status. The campus sprawls over 875 acres and is a self-contained model township. Students (1,701 of them at present, from the primary level to the Master's stage in Arts, Science and Education), and members of the staff (542 now, including peons and chowkidars; 198 are engaged as teachers) come from all over the country. Kuwait, Nepal and Sudan are some of the foreign countries from where girls have come to study at Banasthali.

Tuition is free and the average hostel charges come to around Rs. 1,000 a year. Clothes, books etc. are, of course, at the students' own cost. The current year's budget altogether totals Rs. 67 lakhs. The Central and the Rajasthan Government give financial aid, as do many of the other Indian States and the Government of Nepal. Private donations are also there. There is an International House, for foreign students primarily. They take courses of varying duration in Gandhian philosophy, Indian music and other subjects.

The Vidyapith aims at a synthesis of the spiritual

heritage of the East and the scientific achievements of the West. For this, so that the whole personality of a student may develop in a balanced way, it has adopted the concept of Panch-Mukhi Shiksha. The five faces in this education are Physical, Practical, Aesthetic, Moral and Intellectual.

Physical education includes drills, yogic asanas, games, sports, motor-driving, riding (and they make a very pretty picture—little girls in blue frocks performing various antics on horseback), rifle shooting, and learning to fly aircraft. The Vidyapith has a boating association centre and a flying club of its own.

Practical education includes household work of all kinds (guests generally have a nice time in the cooking classes) and a number of crafts. This last is aimed at providing self employment. Aesthetic education includes painting (Benode Behari Mukherjee taught at Banasthali for a few years), music and dance.

Intellectual education is the main prop. The Vidyapith offers a wide range of courses and subjects. There are diploma courses in foreign languages and research facilities in quite a few disciplines. The Veda Vidyalaya devotes itself entirely to a systematic study of Indian and other scriptures.

Moral education is given through daily prayers, weekly post-prayer talks, reading and reciting of scriptures. Strict emphasis is also laid on the moral aspect in day-to-day conduct and behaviour. The life-style is simple. Thatched houses are persisted with the courtyards are overlaid with cowdung, everybody has to wear khadi, the food is vegetarian, the medium of instruction is predominantly Hindi. Indeed the ashramic character of Banasthali is much more authentic than that of Santiniketan.

But its main strength may very well be its main weakness. Their total immersion in tradition seems to have made them impervious to various factors. Since nothing exists in a vacuum, should not a residential institution try to be a microcosm of the world at large?

The purpose of education is to prepare people for a fuller life, a life in which they have to participate as equals before they can enrich it. Does Banasthali prepare its girls for that confident participation? They are made to grow up in a chrysalis. Would not exposure be too great a shock?

Mr. P. N. Mathur has been Director of Education in Banasthali since its inception (he retained his post even while he served at Rajasthan's Education Minister from 1948 onward), but he could not name a single alumnus of Banasthali who had achieved eminence. Should we not export a product of such care give something back to society? Being an excellent housewife is all very good but

India now needs something more than that from its educated women.

Mr. Mathur also admitted that very few students of Banasthali stay on there after they pass out. Can it be that the regions of an ashram life are more suffered than enjoyed? Are they merely driving a series of prejudices down unwary young women's gullet? In encouraging a return to old values, are they not taking their wards away from reality?

This reality may be undesirable, according to the people there who swear by Gandhi, but since they seem to be doing nothing about changing society the products of their secluded campus will be at serious disadvantage when they encounter life, red in tooth and claw.

All this need a patient probe, all the more so because the case in point is Banasthali where good people have spent years of dedication and where, if performance matches promise, the future of the country may be made.

—(H. S.)

Work On India's First Satellite

Peenya, an industrial estate near Bangalore City, is humming with activity. India's first satellite is taking shape there. The satellite is due for launch from the Soviet Union in about a year. A group of young engineers and scientists of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum is tackling the sophisticated technology involved in this venture.

One of the most difficult problems being solved is thermal control by which the temperature inside the satellite is regulated, despite the extreme heat and cold outside ranging from -100°C to +200°C, as it passes from the dark side to the sunlit side of the earth. A passive thermal control system is being evolved, by which the nature of the inside structure itself will keep the temperature between 10°C and 20°C. A unique thermo-vacuum chamber to test the structure is being built.

The satellite is spun to keep it steady, otherwise its axis will behave like a revolving top losing its momentum. The satellite weighs 250 kg. and it is powered by a combination of silicon solar cells and nickel-cadmium batteries.

The design is completely Indian. Certain off-the-shelf items are being obtained from the Soviet Union. The indigenous fabrication would give Indian engineers the know-how for more challenging jobs in building bigger satellites.

Serving God and Country While Growing Vegetables

★ By A Correspondent ★

Somewhat like a synthesis of Dara Singh and Shatrughan Sinha, he is not much to look at. But his earnest eyes are as compelling as the Ancient Mariner's and his handclasp as warm as the summer in Haryana. Instant rapport was established and Shiv Kumar Kalra, 35, a progressive farmer of the State, packed us into his car to take us to Ukhana Mandi, 30 miles from Hissar, to visit his family's 300-acre farm which he manages.

Shiv Kumar's father, Paramanand, was quite a big landowner in western Multan from where he moved over to Ukhana soon after partition. He had his proportionate share of land vacated by fleeing Muslims and with the help of his brother, he acquired some more plots. But before he could really make a mark in his new place, he died, when his tractor overturned. That was in 1953 and Shiv Kumar, who idolised his father, promised—he was then 12—that he would tame the stubborn land.

He passed school and did not quite like college. His interest was in the farm, for work where he had an instinct. From then on it has been up, up all the way. In the meantime he married Pushpa of Fatehbad and as Shiv Kumar says, you work with all your mind when your ultimate goal is to buy something for the woman you love.

Kalra's house in Ukhana is new—two big rooms, a kitchen, a bathroom, a verandah, a porch. He divides his time between here and his house at Hissar.

Kalra goes in mainly for vegetables which fetch a better price than grain crops. His secret is that he grows them either early in the season or late. This assures him of a better price than the in-season growers. Tomato, potato, sweet potato, cauliflower, cabbage, chillies—you name it, he grows it. The minimum wage for an unskilled labourer is Rs. 5 and a skilled one gets this plus free housing, fuel, medicine, vegetables, wheat and tobacco—the last he grows not for sale but only for consumption by his farm hands. (He says he does all this so that his 200 workers do not have to spend any time on queueing up at the ration shops.) Marketing is no problem as he uses his own vehicles to carry the produce to the buying centres.

Kalra personally supervises every operation but has a scheme of incentive bonus to get the best out of everybody. A transistor radio is given to each and everybody who succeeds in growing in an acre more than either 50 maunds of wheat or 30 maunds of cotton or Rs. 6,000 worth tomato or potato. These four crops are grown in 50, 70, 10 and 20 acres respectively.

Kalra has a tractor a thresher and four tubewells. Besides he owns 30 Sahiwal cows, 20 buffaloes, three horses and eight dogs. These last are excellent guards and the whole farm is left unfenced

without a fear. His expenses come to around Rs. 35,000 including Rs. 1,500 on electricity. What he gets in return can be guessed from the fact that he changes his car, truck, jeep, tractor and scooter every year. He has a private swimming pool, refrigerators and air-conditioners as well.

Discerning signs of waywardness in the young Shiv Kumar, his grandmother introduced him to the Radhaswami sect of which he is now a full-fledged member. He neither drinks nor smokes, and is a vegetarian. He does not swear and comes across as a man of high principles.

His modesty is palpable but he is not a fool or a hypocrite and so he attributes his success to his hard work, market sense and intuition though God's grace is the "single most important factor". He is a frequent visitor to the Haryana Agricultural University, "my temple" as he calls it. He gets all his problems solved there and indeed is treated as a son by the Director of Extension there, Dr. J. C. Sharma. Kalra finds it sad that people consider him a big farmer. As the eldest son in a joint family, he manages the land of all its members. Out of the 300 acres his own share would be 20 acres or so. He craves for new ideas and resents that the ceiling on land holdings has curbed his achievement.

He has been to Ohio and says American farms are so successful because they extend up to 5,000 acres. Tractors that cost 2000—3,000 dollars there are sold in India for Rs. 80,000.

Another difference Kalra noted was that in the USA, women worked equally, even driving tractors. Here, he says, "one works and twelve eat" (however, Mrs. Kalra, who studies Home Science at Haryana Agricultural University, can drive a tractor, as can their son Anil). Kalra cut short his American visit, returning after only two months, with four months yet to go. He says he wanted to learn about vegetable growing but was being shown only grain farms. "I had nothing to learn on that," he says, "Indeed, I blasted the myth that they work harder by tilling more land than they during a given period of time".

The greatest hurdle to India's progress, according to Kalra, is in its corrupt officials who, "like Mahmud of Ghazni, are interested only in loot and plunder." He wants to change all this and, hoping that education will make perfect, has arranged for the children of his farm labour to attend school. He is a stickler for manners, and anybody, however young, gets a stern warning if he fails to wish Kalra or his guests. He has a penchant for speaking in riddles and parable. When it was suggested that he grows roses, which have a good market abroad, he smiled and said, "Haath men bachcha, god men bachcha, pet men phir keya hoga" (I have

(Contd. on page 391)

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Malaysia Turns The Corner

★ By Bhola Chatterjee ★

To say that Malaysia is one of Asia's most stable countries would be repeating the obvious. With a yearly per capita income of about Rs. 3,750 and a reasonably responsive democratic system of government, Malaysia projects the image of a society on the move. It also does not betray a lack of awareness that its is a race against time. Committed as it is to hammering out a multiracial society without compromising the essentials of democratic politics it evinces at the same time a certain tenseness that not many underdeveloped countries do.

No sensible Malaysian would dispute that the country's ability to integrate its diverse ethnic groups into a meaningful whole would ultimately determine its future. Only one answer is there to the challenge that confronts it and that is, to acquire a clear Malaysian identity. This unmistakably is the most important factor that could make or mar things. It is readily conceded that Malaysia's existence as an integrated polity depends on this. No less a person than the former Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, rightly called the architect of modern Malaysia, is on record as having repeatedly observed that the country is too fragile to survive as anything but a multiracial entity.

That explains why the race problem has since Malaysia's attainment of freedom dominated its policy formulators' approach to men and events. As long as Tunku Abdul Rahman was at the helm of affairs his unceasing effort had been to convince the various race groups that they would flourish only if they merged their separate identities into the Malaysian mainstream. That of course was aftermath of a decade's insurgency and all that went with it. Yet at one time it appeared that he had come within an ace of success, that he had been able to put Malaysia into port. But there was a wide gulf between the apparent and the real. The May 1969 race conflict was a savage reminder that the Tunku's labours had been wasted. To its dismay the country realized that each community had been living on its separate island, that there was little, except the policeman's baton, that bound the ethnic groups together.

Much has since been done to repair the severe political and economic damage the race riots had caused. The economy has patiently been nursed back to health, parliamentary system restored and national harmony re-established, thanks to the intrepid handling of the situation by the ruling Alliance Party (which comprises the United Malay National Organization Malaysian Chinese Association and the Malaysian Indian Congress), particularly its chief steward Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak. Even a casual investigation would confirm that the economy is in fairly good shape. Unlike many another third world country Malaysia

does not have to bother much about the basic foods its people require, it grows enough food to go round. This plus reasonably intelligent management of the country's resources have enabled the economy to move under its own steam. According to knowledgeable sources, "urban construction is booming...Hotels, factories and high-rise apartment and office building are going up at such a pace that a shortage of construction materials has developed. On the international money markets the Malaysian dollar remains firm." The political scene also looks placid and there is hardly any trace of yesterday's steers.

It would indeed have been comforting if the account had ended on this note. That is not to be. For much leeway has still to be made up before the country could be said to have come out of the wood. Even if one takes a charitable view of the Malaysian society one cannot justifiably say that the race question has ceased to worry the people. It has not. Because the Malays, who form nearly 47 per cent of the country's total population of about 11.5 million (the Chinese and the Indians constitute some 36 per cent and 9 per cent respectively) and who claim to be identified as the Bhumiputras or sons of the soil, intensely resent being on the wrong side of the economic scene. What gnaws at their heart is the fact that, though numerically superior, they own a meagre 2 per cent of the country's total wealth. It is well to remember that this economic imbalance had been one of the major causes of the last race riots.

Of course the present regime is not sleeping on the issue. It is doing what it can to make the Malay feel that he is not the odd man out. Still this remains a potential source of mischief. Also renewed communist guerrilla activity, particularly in the East Malaysian State of Sarawak, poses a threat of sorts that cannot be ignored. All this, however, must not obfuscate the fact that it is no longer touch and go whether Malaysia would survive. In point of fact it has turned the corner.—(H.S.)

SERVING GOD....

(Contd. from page 390)

a child in my arms, another on my lap, what need I with another inside !)

Even in a State of prosperous farmers, Kalra is, of course, an exception. But success has not turned his head. He is respectful to his uncle ("I merely obey his orders") affectionate to his cousins, a devoted husband and a loving father of three. Time and again he would get the perspective clear by the saying, "I am the servant of Gura and God and I serve the nation." The nation could do with many more Kalras.

Indo-Soviet Collaboration In Oil Exploration

★ By D. K. Borooah ★
Minister, Petroleum & Chemicals

The myth that India did not have any oil deposits was shattered as a result of geological studies made in 1955 with Soviet assistance. Following these studies new oil fields were discovered both in Gujarat and Assam. The country is going ahead with further exploration programme to secure for itself supplies of this most vital source of energy.

It is a curious fact of India's history that although oil was discovered in the country as early as 1867 (which was only 8 years after Col. Drakes' first discovery of oil anywhere in the world) and commercial operations for production of oil commenced well before the turn of the last century, under colonial rule nothing significant was done to develop potential oil resources for more than half a century after the black gold had been found in a remote corner of Assam.

In fact, the view had gained currency that India's oil potential was extremely limited, if not completely non-existent. Perhaps as a result of the establishment of prolific and low cost oilfield in West Asia and elsewhere the international oil cartels were not interested in looking for oil in India even though the country had vast and promising sedimentary basins.

The quest for oil was, however, a matter of vital importance for India in view of the rapidly increasing demand for commercial energy and the technologically key-role oil was beginning to play in supplying this energy. It was in the teeth of heavy odds and in disregard to the advice that oil exploration was a risky gamble for developing countries, that India took the decision to develop its own petroleum industry and set up a national exploration agency of its own viz. the Oil and Natural Gas Directorate which later became the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

Myth Shattered

The crucial decision became possible only after a team headed by an eminent Soviet geologist, Dr. A. Kalinin, had made a rapid study of the geological prospects of the Indian sedimentary basins in 1955 and come to the optimistic conclusion that there were bright prospects of striking oil in the country.

The myth that India did not have oil deposits in commercial quantities was thus shattered with the help and cooperation of the USSR.

The Soviet Union followed up their initial findings by assisting ONGC in drawing up a bold plan for exploration. They also assisted the agency by providing technical experts, drilling and prospecting equipment and training for a large number of ONGC personnel in the various spheres of oil operation. Thus equipped, ONGC commenced its drilling operations.

Gas and Oil Discovered

In May, 1958, gas was tapped in the Jwalamukhi area of Punjab and three months later, a well in the Cambay structure in Gujarat led to

the discovery of a commercial gas field. Having struck hydro-carbons in the Cambay Basin, ONGC intensified its search in that area, with massive Soviet assistance. Its efforts were rewarded with the discovery of high-grade, low-sulphur oil in Ankleshwar. Today, Ankleshwar alone produces about 3 million tonnes of oil per annum.

The Ankleshwar oil find was followed by discoveries in several structures in Gujarat all of which have been commercially exploited by ONGC with Soviet technical assistance. In Assam too, ONGC succeeded in discovering oil fields in Lakwa and Rudrasagar.

Other areas such as the Cauvery Basin in Tamil Nadu and areas in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal are also being explored by ONGC with Soviet equipment and the assistance of the Soviet experts.

Proud Achievement

ONGC, in less than two decades of its existence has drilled as many as 1032 wells with a total meterage of 2.14 million metres. Of these, 616 wells have yielded hydrocarbons. The success ratio of ONGC's drilling operations has remained high. ONGC now produces about 4.11 million tonnes of oil and 455 million cubic metres of gas per year. Altogether about 29.2 million tonnes of oil and 2540 million cubic metres of gas have been sold from the Commission's fields, thus effecting large savings in the country's foreign exchange resources. This is indeed an achievement that ONGC can be justly of an achievement made possible due to the unstinted cooperation and assistance from the Soviet Union all along.

Off-shore Exploration

Encouraged by its success in discovering oil on the mainland, ONGC ventured to explore for oil in the country's off-shore areas. The Soviet Union came forward to assist ONGC by providing a fully equipped and fully manned Soviet Seismic Ship, the "ARKHANGELSKY". This ship carried out reconnaissance and seismic surveys in various areas of the Indian Continental Shelf during 1964-65. It was this survey which led to the discovery of the Bombay High—some 100 miles off the Bombay coast—a structure about 40 times the size of Ankleshwar.

Earlier, when ONGC decided to drill its first off-shore well in the Aliabet structure, it was Soviet Union who provided the design for the fixed platform and also helped in fabricating the platform and erecting it at the site.

Self-Reliance in Technology

Soviet assistance to the Indian oil industry has been varied and very considerable. In their endeavour to make India not self-sufficient in oil but also self-reliant in oil technology, the Soviet Union helped in setting up the Hind Oil Design Institute. Several hundred Soviet experts came to the country to assist ONGC in almost every conceivable area of oil operation, from geological and geophysical exploration to actual oil production and maintenance of machinery and equipment. What is more important, these Soviet experts trained thousands of Indian technicians on the job so that India can in the near future expect to stand on her own feet.

More recently, that is, in 1970-72, the USSR assisted ONGC in conducting a techno-economic feasibility study of oil prospects and production in the next 10 years. Based on this study ONGC has drawn up a bold plan which envisages an increase of oil production to 8 million tonnes per year at the end of 1977-78 and to 13 million tonnes per year at the end of 1982-83.

This is exclusive of such of the deep off-shore prospects, as the Government of India is seeking to develop through foreign collaboration under a 'general contractor' type of arrangement.

Assistance in oil refining

The Soviet Union, while assisting India, did not stop with oil exploration and production but logically went further to meet India's requirements for oil refining. The refineries in the public sector at Barauni and Koyali were set up with Soviet assistance who not only provided the process design and detailed engineering, but also credit to cover the cost of equipment and machinery as also the services of Soviet experts. Soviet experts, quick in recognising the basic capabilities of Indian engineers to pick up technology and know-how in the shortest possible time, offered to train them. The know-how and expertise thus acquired was largely instrumental in setting up an engineering consultancy unit in the public sector, viz. M/s. Engineers India Ltd.

The Mathura Refinery, foundation stone of which was laid by the Prime Minister on October 2 this year, is yet another mile-stone in Indo-Soviet friendship. The country's most ambitious refinery with a capacity of 6 million tonnes per year, is to be erected with Soviet assistance which will include design and engineering and supply of equipment. The refinery is expected to be completed in 1975-79.

In the context of the growing energy crisis in the world and the uncertainty in the international oil market, it is imperative that the country should be come self-sufficient in oil. India looks forward to increasing Soviet collaboration in her efforts to achieve this goal.

THE KABUL SCENE

★ By Walter Schwere ★

Kabul: Outwardly Afghanistan has little to show for its republican regime. In the bargain bazaars of Kabul, trade is in the doldrums. Prices are going up, here as everywhere else in the world. And the coming of military rule has stopped people from talking freely for fear of being arrested.

It is three and a half months since King Muhammad Zahir Shah was overthrown in a coup which installed his cousin Mohammed Daud, as President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Defence of the new republic.

Kabul lives on trade—especially the passing trade of tourists and 'world travelers' (the more respectable successors of the "hippies") going between Europe and Asia by road. Now the new regime has tried to clamp down on smuggling and has closed the free foreign exchange markets which had made Afghanistan the Switzerland of central Asia.

These measures have disrupted traditional trade without, as yet, putting anything new in its place. Traders are reluctant to import or export because they do not know what the value of the new "Afghan" (the currency unit) will eventually be. And foreigners are discouraged from buying because banks are offering 25 per cent less than they used to for dollars and pounds—and the black market has been closed by order.

These are the snags that impress a visitor. They do not mean that the new regime has no promise. As President, Mohammed Daud has confirmed the impression he left when he was Prime Minister 10 years ago. He is a serious reformist (if somewhat too sternly austere), determined to make Afghanistan modern and efficient.

If there has not been much to show as yet, the reason is that he is still consolidating his power. A month after the coup, a former Prime Minister the commander of the Air Force and other officers were arrested and charged with having attempted a counter-coup.

Daud, who uses the ex-King's palace as his own office, is so heavily guarded that the public sees little of him.

Internal struggle

Behind the scenes there is obviously still a power struggle between the younger officers who helped install Daud most of whom were trained in the Soviet Union and lean towards the Left, and the President's own middle-of-the-road followers.

Little of the struggle sees the light of day because the new regime has borrowed some of the Communist techniques of secrecy. Diplomats and foreign journalists are prevented from seeing officials except by special ministerial dispensation. The only man who is in a position to give authentic information is Daud himself—and he is not talking.

The symptoms that show

are what the Government does and what it omits, and whom it appoints. Hardly anyone of stature has appeared as head of a Ministry—and the top jobs are still held by Daud himself.

"If only they would make up their minds" complained a businessman in Kabul. "Are we to have socialism or free trade? We could adapt to either system once we knew". But this battle, among others, still seems to be being fought out behind the scenes in the Central Committee—the largely military body which still rules Afghanistan so secretly that not even the names of its members have been published.

If the inner disputes can be settled, Daud will stand more chance than his deposed cousin of modernising Afghanistan. He has already outlined a plan for industrialisation based perhaps too ambitiously, on heavy industry.

Daud's greatest strength is likely to be in his ability to get help from both Russia and America. He did this successfully when he was Prime Minister before. His new regime is popular in Moscow but he is far from being a Communist. Since Afghanistan still retains something of its traditional role as a buffer State between Russia, India and Iran, both Great Powers have an interest in its stability.

Meanwhile diplomats in Kabul are still awaiting signs that Daud is really master in his own house. The first positive sign is likely to be the appearance of men who have something to say and feel able to talk. — (*The Observer, London*).

Student Talent

New Delhi, Nov. 30: Mathematical calculations frighten many but a school student from Bihar. He had the courage to teach calculations to a machine and exhibit his talent at an exhibition held here recently.

The talented designer, a student of St Alloysius School, Ranchi, earned public appreciation for assembling a working model of a calculator.

The calculation was one of three scientific devices designed by three students and one teacher of two educational institutions of Bihar. The items were on display here at the second national science exhibition.

Another contribution of St. Alloysius' was an orange squash seller.

Various items at the exhibition depicted how the human being came into existence; how to detect enemy's wireless net work; what is a computer; what is a time bomb; how to control heavy traffic; what is a skylab; what is a hanging train; how is weather predicted; and how magnetism helps a puppet dance.

In all 17 States, two Union Territories and 20 Government department and public sector undertakings participated in the exhibition. It was organised as a part of Jawaharlal Nehru's 34th birth anniversary celebrations.

Jumbo Carp Bred In Heated Pools

Hamburg (DaD)—Fishery research institute staff at Ahrenshurg, near Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany, have been surprisingly successful with the jumbo carp they breed in heated pools. The young grow to three-pounders in a year as opposed to the usual three. Scientists recalled that carp were imported in medieval times from the warmer climes of Asia Minor, where a water temperature of 23°C is normal. Both these fish are one year old. The smaller one was bred in a conventional outdoor pool and weighs 40 grammes; the jumbo carp, raised in a heated pool, tilts the scales at 1,750 grammes.

Newspapers On Hire

Krishnagar, Nov. 30: Increase in the price of newspapers has led to reading on hire at the news stalls here.

A few enterprising stall owners, apprehending a reduction in their income due to the price hike, have put up notices offering newspapers for reading on hire at five paise per paper for every half an hour — *U.N.I.*

THE ART OF DEFOE

(Contd. from page 389)

and restrained with a few brush strokes he has lifted his story into the region of high tragedy.

No discussion on Defoe will be complete without touching on his masterpiece Robinson Crusoe. Here again we see Defoe the story teller. Here is the first Englishman to create on a large scale fiction with an interest in story. Leslie Stephen points out that in Robinson Crusoe artistic writing is imposed by the very nature of Defoe's subject. Here is a subject for romance but treated in an ordinary way. The island is strange, struggles with nature are not, because the human beings inhabiting the island are creatures from our own mortal world. The tropical island the splendours and terrors of nature are there to impress upon us the extreme solitude of one man. No story has yet been told with such plausibility which accounts for its popularity. As has been pointed out, "There had been no fiction such as this from when literature began, there has been nothing quite like it since."

The style of Defoe arises from the colloquial but racy speech of the people. He has been criticized for missing the flights of fancy. But he pointed out to future novelists that the earth and not the sky was their forte. To achieve the essential realism of his narrative he denies himself the graces of language. His style is "circuitous, colloquial and periphrastic" but he "achieved style by aiming at something beyond it.

— (A.B.P.)

GINSENG GOES ABROAD

Seoul: Ginseng, a time-honoured tonic for Orientals, has contributed to the promotion of Korea's exports in recent years, due to strenuous efforts by the government and domestic firms to explore foreign ginseng markets and the growing interest in the extraordinary root by foreigners.

In 1972, the export of ginseng and its products amounted to total of 14,164,344, dollars which included 5,286,462 worth of ginseng products produced by the Office of Monopoly.

This year, the export of ginseng and its products is expected to 200,000 dollars. This amount includes 7,900,000 dollars worth of red ginseng and 1,000,000 dollars worth of its derivatives made by the Office of Monopoly. The exports of white ginseng and its derivatives, made by domestic firms, will reach 9,300,000, dollars according to the office.

The export of ginseng liquor amounted 259,000 dollars last year, which represents an 82 per cent increase over 1971. The figure is almost 2.5 times the goal of 100,000 dollars originally set for the export of the liquor last year.

The popularity of the liquor, which is made of tonic ginseng, has greatly increased on markets in South-east Asia recently.

Officials at the Office of Monopoly said that the medicinal use of ginseng was already well known to Orientalists 5,000 years ago.

"Cure-All": Korean ginseng has been used as a precious gift between royal families in Oriental countries ever since its discovery.

Ginseng, often called "cure-all" medicine, originally grew in deep valleys in Korea. Since the 16th century, however, ginseng has been cultivated on the farms in order to increase production, the officials said.

Korean-made ginseng is very popular in markets in Southeast Asia because of Asians' recognition of the effects of Korean ginseng.

In Europe, the effect of the root is not well known. In recent years, though, pharmaceutical circles, in some countries have begun to show a keen interest in the plant.

Officials are worried, however, that the popularity of white ginseng is on the decline in Japan, the major market for white ginseng. In South-east Asia, the peoples seem to prefer white ginseng made in United States or Canada to Korean white ginseng.

In 1972, the total trade volume of red and white ginseng on the world market was estimated at 908,000 kuns; 273,00 kuns of red ginseng and 635,000 kuns of white ginseng. (One kun equals 600 grams).

Of the total, more than half or 491,000 kuns of this is Korean ginseng while U. S. ginseng and Japanese ginseng amounted to 170,000 kuns and 162,000 kuns respectively,

In addition to Korea, the United States, Japan, Canada, China and North Korea are major ginseng producing nations.

Korea exported a total of 120,000 kuns of ginseng in 1971.

The manufacture of ginseng soup and cakes is being considered by domestic business firms. Moreover, the office is seeking technical cooperation from Eivan in France and Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola in the United States to make a ginseng beverage.

Medicinal: The office is also planning to hold a symposium on the effects of ginseng, to establish ginseng centres or shops in major countries and to distribute catalogues and pamphlets on ginseng in overseas markets.

The establishment of a ginseng research institute is planned and the office is to ask major pharmaceutical firms to study the effects of the ginseng, according to officials.

They said that medical research on Korean ginseng has been conducted throughout the world and researchers have indicated that it may be effective in controlling the growth of cancer-cells and retarding hardening of the arteries.

In addition, the office is to work out effective measures to combat the imitation of Korean ginseng on overseas markets.

Monkey Brigade

Dacca: The idea of monkey troops assisting Rama may not be just an wistful imagination after all. At least one person, Mr. Abdul Latif, a local businessman, seems to have learnt the hard way, how terrifying the monkeys can be.

Monkeys had been bothering him for quite some time by crowding near his residence in the old part of the city and quite often disappearing with odds and ends.

He decided to settle the score and shot a monkey dead. Little did he know that he had made one of the greatest mistakes of his life.

For, soon enough, about 200 monkeys surrounded his house forcing the inmates behind the locked doors. The siege lasted for about six hours. Finally, the monkey troops withdrew but not before they had frightened the inmates to their bones.

ALWAYS HYGIENIC

ASOKA BREAD & BISCUIT FACTORY

THIS WEEK IN INDIA

Insurance cover for co-op deposits

An ordinance to provide insurance cover for deposits in co-operative banks, has been promulgated by the Kerala Governor.... Ashoka Paper Mills in Bihar is expected to go into production by April next... Esso has decided to cancel the cut in crude supplies to India.... The Petroleum Ministry has proposed an interim increase in the dealers' commission on petrol from 4.18 paise a litre to 5 paise and on high speed diesel (HSD) from 1.76 paise a litre to 4 paise.... Angry villagers killed four persons following the recovery of a boy's body from a well in Keora village about 15 km. from Patna... Parliament passed the Textile Committee (Amendment) Bill empowering the Government to levy a cess up to 1 per cent ad valorem on all textiles and textile machinery....

Miss Nicholette Lubberts, the complainant in the Gulmarg rape case, told the Chief Judicial Magistrate of Srinagar that she had come to India to learn yoga.... The Union Government is considering the question of converting UNI and other national news agencies into public corporations.... Deficit financing amounted to Rs. 1,975 crores during the first four years of the Fourth Plan, according to the Minister of State for Planning, Mr. Mohan Dharia.... Personnel of the Indian National Army and the Royal Indian Navy, who revolted against the British raj, have been included in the pension scheme for freedom fighters....

The Lok Sabha rejected the Opposition's first no-confidence move against Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Government since the 1971 elections, by a massive 247 votes to 53.... Prices of coal produced by the Bharat Coking Coal have gone up by Rs. 5 per tonne and that of Coal Mines Authority by Rs. 3 per tonne, on an average for different varieties from November 15, according to the BCCI Chairman, Mr. R. N. Sharma.... Mr. S. K. Sarkar, a young scientific officer of Atomic Energy Commission, posted at Turamdih near Jamshepur was reported missing since October 24, according to a police report.... The Union Government has no proposals at present to nationalise any of the existing private banks including foreign banks functioning in India....

Pakistan's partition debt to India is of the order of Rs. 300 crores.... The Union Cabinet has approved the draft Fifth Five-Year Plan, having a total outlay of Rs. 53,350 crores and aimed at achieving a growth rate of 5.5 per cent per annum. The New Delhi Municipal Committee is likely to discuss the take-over of petrol pumps within its area.... Two 100 mw captive thermal power plants—one each at Raniganj (West Bengal) and at Jharia (Bihar)—will be established to step up power supplies to the coal mines in the region.... A strong plea was made at the conference of the Governors in New Delhi for a dual system of prices for petrol on the sugar pattern....

The M. P. Government has notified formal take-over of the Bamboo and sabai trade in 24 districts.... Sheikh Abdullah has suggested that the Constitution should be rewritten in the light of the "experience" during the last 26 years.... The question of amending the definition of 'workman' and raising the existing wage limit of Rs. 500 per month of supervisory staff under the Industrial Disputes Act is under the Union Government's consideration.... The U. P. Government has decided to open hill universities at Nainital (Kumaon) and at Srinagar (Garhwal) from Dec. 1... The officials committee on economy of Raj Bhavans has opposed the idea that Governors should shift to smaller houses....

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) will launch its first independent oil exploration venture in Iraq by the end of this month.... India exported gems and jewellery of the value of Rs. 45.41 crores during the first half of the current financial year.... The 30-tola gold waist band allegedly stolen from the Bharatpur Palace in Delhi a couple of months ago has been recovered by the police following the arrest of two more members of the gang.... The Indian Airlines has declared a lockout.... The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi is understood to have called for austerity and simplicity in the way of functioning of Governors....

Customs authorities have confiscated contraband goods worth Rs. 3.5 lakhs allegedly smuggled by Prem Pal Singh Rawat, alias Balyogeshwar — the teen aged Guru of Divine Light Mission.... A bomb making factory was unearthed by the police in the Kathia village in Nawuaah district.... Mr. Sitaram Keshari, M. P., ruling group nominee, was declared elected President of the Bihar Pradesh Congress Committee...

The ban on strikes on Railways has been extended for another six months from November 26.... The Himachal Government has decided to turn the Simla and Chail tourist complex into a mini-Switzerland.... The Aga Khan has donated three-and-a-half acres of land adjoining the historic Aga Khan Palace in Poona to the Gandhi National Memorial.... The first indigenous model of a "drum scanner" — the heart of the emerging digital image processing science in India — has been developed in Bangalore.... Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid I Brezhnev arrived in New Delhi on November 26 on a five-day state visit to India.... "Asthadhatoo idols" worth Rs. 50,000 belonging to Gupta-age were stolen from Laxminath temple at Koshla village in Nawadah district....

Tailpiece: An elephant, which has put in 39 years of service in the Forest Department of Varagaliyar in Anamalais, has retired in October on a monthly pension of Rs. 500 — *News-item*

Man's bid to Immolate himself foiled

New Delhi, Nov. 30: A saffron-clad and bearded railway employee, under suspension, made a vain bid to immolate himself in the vicinity of the Central Secretariat on Saturday to protest against alleged malpractices in the Railways.

The police identified the man as Mr. S. P. Verma, a resident of 24 Parganas in West Bengal.

Mr. Verma, allegedly set ablaze his kerosene-soaked clothes in a park near Gurdwara Rakabganj. Passersby put out the fire and rushed him to Willingdon Hospital where he is stated to be in a critical condition.

The police recovered a note addressed to the Union Railway Minister from Mr. Verma's bag, if his grievances were not redressed, he would immolate himself.

Before joining the Railways Mr. Verma had served in the Navy.

Keshari elected BPCC chief

Patna, Nov. 25—Sitaram Keshari, MP, the nominee of the ruling group, was on Sunday declared as President of the Bihar Pradesh Congress Committee defeating his lone rival, Mr. Nagendra Jha, a former Health Minister, in a straight contest.

Mr. Keshari polled 321 votes and Jha 207. Five votes were declared invalid.

In this prestigious election 533 out of 570 PCC delegates delegates cast their votes.

The results were announced by the Pradesh Congress returning officer, Mr. Gopi Nath Dikshit.

The entire proceedings took about four hours.

Mr. Dikshit said that a decision regarding the holding of election to the Executive Committee would be taken later.

Mr. Keshari said his first task would be to implement party programmes as announced by the Prime Minister. He sought co-operation of all Congressmen in this task.

The stage was set for a straight contest for the Presidency of the Bihar Pradesh Congress Committee with the filing of only two nominations duly proposed and seconded till 09-00 hours today, the deadline for the filing of nominations.

The ruling group proposed the name of Mr. Sitaram Keshari, MP, and the dissident group put up the name of Mr. Nagendra Jha, MLA, a former Health Minister.

Mrs. Purabi Mukherji, one of the AICC secretaries, attended the BPCC meeting as an observer of the Congress High command. Mr. Gopinath Dixit of Uttar Pradesh was the returning officer.

Polling started at 11 this morning.

The Pradesh Returning Officer announced there were only two candidates, namely, Mr. Sitaram Keshari and Mr. Nagendra Jha for the Presidency. He said that five delegates would be called at a time to cast their votes.

DELHI WARMLY....

(Contd. from page 388)

peace and lessening of tension in the world.

Mrs. Gandhi said that the Soviet Union had never put any kind of pressure on India and had never told this country what it should do. India wanted to adopt its own path for the prosperity of its people.

BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK TOGETHER FOR PEACE

New Delhi Nov. 30: Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev on Wednesday underlined the need for India and the Soviet Union to 'work together for peace throughout world'.

Speaking at a reception accorded to him by the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society here Mr. Brezhnev said that the results of his visit to India and the talks he had with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi 'are very fruitful'.

'I venture to express my conviction that these results will usefully serve the cause of further developing Soviet Indian relations for the good of our two nations'.

Echoing the sentiments expressed by the Soviet leader Prime Minister Indira Gandhi allayed fears that Indo Soviet friendship would infringe upon India's independence. On the other hand she asserted Indo-Soviet friendship had only helped us to strengthen our independence.

She reminded the large audience present that India could safeguard its independence only if the country was economically strong. It was in this field that the Soviet Union is helping us she said.

Mr. Brezhnev's visit Mrs. Gandhi stressed was a further strong link in the chain of ever-growing Indo-Soviet friendship.

Mr. Brezhnev received a prolonged standing ovation from the fully packed audience in the main hall of Vigyan Bhavan both as he entered the hall and as he started speaking.

Indian and Soviet flags held aloft by the invitees and a large number of souvenirs kept on the dais to be presented to the Soviet visitor provided a colourful backdrop to the fullthroated welcome of "Indo-Soviet friendship zindabad", Mr. Brezhnev received when he entered the hall.

Mr. Brezhnev's warm references to the close friendship of the peoples of the two countries evoked loud cheers from the audience several times.

A large number of ministers, members of Parliament, diplomats and other dignitaries were present at the reception.

SHARMA CALLS ON BREZHNEV

New Delhi, Nov 25 (UNI) - Congress President Shankar Dayal Sharma called on Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev on Wednesday morning and had a two-hour discussion.

They discussed how to develop greater contacts between the Soviet Communist Party and Congress in future.

While Dr. Sharma explained the working of his party and how it was engaged

Concern Over Meagre Wheat Supply To Bihar

★Staff Reporter★

Patna, Nov. 30 The Bihar Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday expressed concern over the meagre supply of wheat by the Centre to the State which is facing an unprecedented food crisis.

It was decided to ask the Chief Secretary to proceed to Delhi immediately and persuade the Centre to supply adequate foodgrains in order to ease the crisis.

The meeting felt that the meagre Central supply might further worsen the situation. Against the requirement of 2.25 lakh tonnes of wheat every month, the State Government had demanded only one lakh tonnes for November. But the Centre did not supply more than 20,000 tonnes.

The Chief Secretary would urge the government of India to expedite concurrence to the State Govt.'s proposal to take over sugar distribution from the Food Corporation of India. Presently, sugar is distributed to the fair price shops by the F. C. I.

The State Govt. proposes to take over sugar distribution from the F. C. I. from the next month. Although the Centre had okayed the proposal, it has not yet taken a final decision in the matter.

The strike situation in the FCI godowns in Bihar was also discussed by the Cabinet.

The Cabinet decided to set up a standing committee to expedite the various land reforms measures. Mr. Labtan Choudhary, Revenue Minister, would be the chairman of the committee and the following would be its members.

Mr. Daroga Prasad Rai, Finance Minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar Singh, Industries Minister, Mr. T. Bodra, Mr. Sitaram Keshari, M. P., Mr. Indradeep Singh, Mr. Kapildeo Singh, Mr. Bhoja Prasad Singh, Mr. Saryu Mishra and Mr. R. Paswan (all members of Vidhan Sabha).

It was also decided to promulgate a set of new rules for expediting the ad hoc appointment of 250 munsif magistrates. The main feature

(Contd. on last page)

in building a new India, Mr. Brezhnev dwelt on how the Soviet Communist Party was fulfilling the task of development in his country and contributing to world peace.

Both stressed the need for strengthening the relations between India and the Soviet Union for mutual benefit. Mr. Brezhnev reiterated that the assistance being given to India had no strings attached. Dr. Sharma thanked him for the continued help, particularly at the time of crisis.

Mr. Brezhnev told Dr. Sharma that his country always wanted to assist India to develop its economy and become self-reliant.

Economic cooperation between the countries on a long-term basis also, figured in their talks.

ACUPUNCTURE GAINING POPULARITY

Calcutta, Nov. 30 : The efficacy of the traditional Chinese method of treatment — Acupuncture — has been proved in the treatment of chronic ailments like acute arthritis, lumbago, deaf-mutism as well as epileptic diseases, according to Dr. Bijoy Basu, the only medical practitioner practising acupuncture in India.

Dr. Basu, a member of the famous Indian Medical Mission in China in 1943, has toured the country again recently. He has seen in the courts widespread research in almost all medical institutions for further improvement of the system. Chairman Mao Tse Tung according to him, has advocated simultaneous practice of acupuncture along with new western medicines. The people in the rural areas in most cases opted for this traditional method rather than the western practice.

The system has been perfected to the extent that brain and caesarian operations are performed successfully with acupunctural anaesthesia, generally keeping the patient fully conscious all through.

The post-operational hazards have also been considerably minimised, and often the patients are able to move shortly after the operation.

According to Dr. Basu, the system is based on the concept that a human body is kept in an equilibrium by the interaction of two opposing forces — blood and the "vital energy" which are flowing through numerous channels in the body. Any disturbance in the equilibrium leads to diseases. The Chinese philosophers believed that the equilibrium could be restored through penetration of needles as a "vital points" spread all over the body. The needling regulates the flow of the vital energy, thus curing ailments according to Chinese mythology.

The Chinese doctors often apply the needles on themselves to ensure accuracy of the system before pricking the patient. They know that needling at the vital points could be helpful in healing many diseases and they are able to explain the "why and how" of the system scientifically.

Bihar Petrol Dealers Decide To Suspend Agitation

★ Staff Reporter ★

Patna, Nov. 30 : Bihar Petroleum Dealers' Association at its emergency general meeting on Sunday evening here decided to postpone their earlier decision not to purchase petrol products with effect from November 27. This was done in response to an appeal of the President of the All-India Petrol Dealers' Association who wanted to give some more time to the Government of India to view the position regarding their demand to raise petrol commission from four per cent to 10 per cent.

Mr. Chandra Sekhar Singh, Bihar Industries Minister, who inaugurated the conference, told petrol dealers that the Government was seriously considering to introduce petrol rationing in view of the fact that consumption of petrol which went down after rise in the prices of petrol during the first week of November had again gone up recently. Petrol consumption must be lowered and it was felt that free sale of petrol must be curbed. This was necessary with a view to saving precious foreign exchange.

Rationing of petrol was perhaps the only way to lower the consumption of petrol. He assured petrol dealers that the Bihar Government would sympathetically consider the price. Even if foreign companies were taken over by the Government, their business would not suffer, he assured.

Mr. I. B. Chakravorty, president, Bihar Petrol Dealers' Association, in his address narrated the woes of petrol dealers who were facing virtual extinction because of rise in the price of petrol and not allowing eva-

poration of losses of petrol in the dealers.

Since almost two decades petrol commission remained the same to dealers whereas the price of all commodities including the salaries of the staff had been enhanced several times more.

Mr. Khemchand Choudhury, president, Bihar Chamber of Commerce, urged the Industries Minister to recommend to the Government of India to lower the existing prices of petrol as it was vital for the economic growth of the country.

Mr. P. Mukerji Honorary Secretary of the Association, proposed a vote of thanks.

WHEAT SUPPLY TO BIHAR

(Contd. from page 393) of the rules to be promulgated are that there would be no written tests but candidates will be selected by a committee consisting of the Chief Justice of Patna High Court, a Judge of the High Court, Chairman and a member of the Public Service Commission.

Candidates seeking appointment in the ad hoc quota must not be over, 35 years for the general category and over 38 years for the reserve category. They must have completed 3 years of practice in a court of law.

The ad hoc appointment of musif had been necessitated in view of the proposed amendment to the Cr.P.C. which would separate the judiciary from the executive completely with effect from 1-1-74.

It was also decided to sanction Rs. 36.47 lakhs for water supply schemes in the industrial area at Jashidih. Here 623 acres of land had been acquired for setting up a rubber tyre factory in the joint sector.

HOMOSEXUALS DISCUSS THEIR PROBLEMS

New York : About 350 homosexual college teachers and students conferred together for the first time this weekend about the problems of, in their words, coming out of the closet.

"Today we are visible and indeed together", said the conference chairman Prof. Richard Gustafson. "No more shall we let others annihilate us by silence".

Prof. Gustafson, head of the Barnard College Russian department, said it was "the first conference of gay academic people in the history of civilisation—with the exception, perhaps, of Plato's Academy".

The sponsoring Gay Academic Union said the affair on Friday and Saturday drew about 135 students and 50 non-teaching university in addition to faculty members from schools such as San Francisco State, the University of Georgia, Yale, Wellesley and Johns Hopkins.

"If you were homosexual, you would understand how reassuring it feels to come to a conference like this and see hundreds of individuals like yourself", said Dr. Howard Brown.

"One of the purposes we hope to achieve is that being a homosexual is not a contradiction to being an acceptable human being, Dr. Brown said.

24 Women Convicts released

Jabalpur, Nov. 30 : To mark 56th birthday of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi about 24 women convicts undergoing life imprisonment for committing murders and other heinous offence have been released from different Central jails of Madhya Pradesh including 11 from Jabalpur Central Jail on 19th Nov. This was disclosed here by K. P. Singh, Minister for Law and Jails during informal talks.

His further informed that on the pattern of open jail at Mungaoli in Guna district which was inaugurated by the Sarvodaya leader Jai Prakash Narain on November 14, another jail is to be opened somewhere in Saugor Division in coming financial year for dacoits of Bundelkhand region who had made en mass surrender voluntarily last year at Chhatarpur.

This second jail will be of a transit camp type and will house about 100 inmates.

When asked whether he has any plan for reforming jail rules and regulations, Mr. Singh said that he has planned to constitute a jail reform board consisting of officials and non officials including journalists.

During his visit Law and Jail Minister was accorded a reception by Mayor Dr. Kanhiya Lal.

15-Year Economic Pact Signed

P.M. & Brezhnev Discuss World Issues

New Delhi, Nov. 29 : Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev today signed a 15 year agreement on further development of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Both the leaders also signed a joint declaration on the four-day talks, between the two leaders which concluded today.

Indian and the Soviet Union today signed in all three agreements and a protocol, besides the joint declaration.

Planning Minister D. P. Dhar and Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Nikolai Baibikov, who were holding a series of preliminary discussions prior to the highlevel talks, signed an agreement on cooperation between the planning bodies of the two countries. They also signed a protocol, on the implementation of the economic agreement.

The Foreign Ministers of the two countries, Mr. Swaran Singh and Mr. Andrei Gromyko signed a consular convention between the two countries.

The joint declaration and the agreements will be placed on the table of Parliament tomorrow, an official spokesman said.

Both the Indian and Soviet spokesmen declined to divulge any details of the agreements, despite persistent questions from newsmen.

Among the selected gathering that witnessed the 13-minute signing ceremony were Agriculture Minister Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Finance Minister Y. B. Chavan, Minister of State for Planning Mohan Dharia, Minister of State for External Affairs Minister Surendra Pal Singh, Foreign Secretary Kewal Singh and Secretaries of Economic Ministries and members of the Planning Commission.

Among those present on the Soviet side were Head of the State Committee for External Economic Relations S. A. Sketchkov, and Mr. D. A. Kunaev, Politburo member and Deputy Foreign Minister N. M. Pegov.

After the completion of the ceremony Mr. Brezhnev and Mrs Gandhi warmly shook hands.

World Problems

Briefing newsmen on the two final rounds of talks between Mr. Brezhnev and Mrs Gandhi a Soviet spokesman said the talks were characterised by mutual trust and mutual understanding.

He said in today's talks several international problems were discussed. The international situation had improved owing to positive and important steps taken by the Soviet Union and India. Both sides had consolidated this step.

The Soviet side praised India's foreign policy of non-alignment as it had contributed very much towards the struggle for peace.

An Indian spokesman said as of today the question of Asian collective

security did not feature in the talks.

The fourth and final days talks between Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Brezhnev were held in two sessions spreading over four hours and fifteen minutes.

On the Indian side the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and the Secretary to the Prime Minister were present at the talks in the morning and in the afternoon Indian Ambassador in Moscow K. S. Shelvankar and Joint Secretary Venkateshwaran joined the talks. On the Soviet side, Mr. Brezhnev was assisted by Mr. Kunaev and other aides.

The subjects discussed in the talks included West Asia, South East Asia, South Asia and the Pacific region.

Non-Alignment

The Soviet Union's spokesman, Mr. Zamyatin, said that international problems were discussed in detail today and there was a general mention that the international situation was improving owing to a number of important and concrete initiative taken by the Soviet Union and other peace-loving states. Both sides noted the need for consolidating these positive shifts.

The General Secretary of the OPSU highly appreciated the consistent peace-loving foreign policy pursued by India by its policy of non-alignment and big contribution made to the struggle for peace against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, Mr. Brezhnev stressed, the big role played by India in international affairs in particular in the creation of an atmosphere of peace and cooperation in Asia.

Repeatedly asked by newsmen whether Asian Security was discussed Mr. Zamyatin said "We have discussed collective security so extensively here that I have nothing more to add to the subject."

Later replying to another question, the spokesman said that the declaration would contain the list of subjects discussed and the positions taken by the two sides on them.

"General Secretary Brezhnev is returning to Moscow with a feeling of great satisfaction at his talks with the Prime Minister of India. The talks covered a wide range of questions."