

Behar Herald

Chief Editor : S. SAMADDAR

Vol. LXXX]

PATNA, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1954

[No. 26

INSIDE READING

Educational Reconstruction

— EDITORIAL

National Character—II

— RAJSEKHAR BOSE

A Pen Portrail Of Pakistan Foreign Minister

Masses Begins World-wide Fundamental Education

— GEORGE D. STODDARD

Letter, Etc.

Building Up Libya's Exports



Libya is one of the many underdeveloped countries which have enlisted the technical assistance of the United Nations to help strengthen their economic structure. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization has contributed with a large mission of experts in agriculture, forestry, agricultural statistics and marketing. In the above photograph, R. F. Innes of the United Kingdom, an FAO hides expert working in Libya, examines some hides which are being prepared for export. Skins like the above have increased their quality export value by 10 per cent through the work of the FAO mission.

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EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION

People are often led away by slogans and catchwords, but a great harm is caused when a popular catchword is substituted for reconstruction, and there appears to be some danger of its becoming a mere catchword. Before attempting to make any changes in our educational system, we must be quite clear in our minds as to what we actually want. The superficial type of mind perceives phenomena but not realities; it is the type that shouts most loudly as soon as it gets hold of a slogan. Education is one of the two important factors in the progress of human civilization, the other being the betterment of the human stock. We must therefore carefully consider our aims

and ideals before changing the present system of education; for if we take a wrong turning it will set back the advancement of the country by centuries.

Usually, by the word "education" is meant a system of mental training given with the purpose of making the student pass a certain prescribed examinations, and with the ulterior motive of enabling him to earn a livelihood. If our object of education is to give the student such instructions as to provide him with a means of earning his bread, then there can be no doubt that drastic changes in the prevailing educational system is necessary. If, on the other hand, it is granted that the whole purpose of education is to furnish the mental equipment and the principles of character necessary to self-development of the individual, so that the discipline of life

may be accepted with courage and opportunities of living may be enjoyed with self-restraint, the present system seems fairly adequate.

The most important defect in the present system, however, seems to be that the student does not learn to think for himself. It is much easier to be carried than to walk: so much easier to receive than to give. Thinking is hard work, even harder than writing down one's thoughts. Too frequent doses of original thinking from others restrain what lesser proportion of that faculty we may possess of our own. The present curricula and syllabi as well as the system of examinations should be so modified as to develop the power of thinking in the students themselves. They should be more self-reliant and able

to dispense with tutelage at every stage.

It is a pity to teach at school such subjects as book-keeping, shorthand and the like instead of those general ideas which are the privilege of the well-read or are of interest to the average young person. Many boys and girls will, no doubt, find that their school education provides the most important fraction of their knowledge; these do not belong to the well-educated class and we are leaving them out of consideration for the present. We are speaking of those boys and girls who will go to a university. For these it is of utmost importance that both at school and the University they shall learn subjects which will be useless to them in after life. By useless we mean of no help to them in business or profession they adopt as a means of earning an income. The child should be given as wide an education as possible, and with this object, he should be taught the general principles of all subjects required by our present day society, but we must not aim at manufacturing specialists at the school age or even up to the degree standard.

The scheme—that the child should be given such training from the beginning as “to make education self-sufficient” is not at all practicable. In the first place, it will not be possible to dispose off the unfinished and unmarketable goods prepared by immature children; secondly, the production of a large num-

ber of artisans and handicraftsmen will merely cause a glut in the market, when trained carpenters, weavers, potters and others find it difficult to earn their living; thirdly, under this scheme the teacher would exploit students because the payment is provided through production; and lastly, the scheme will destroy the free atmosphere in schools and the school teacher will merely play the part of a factory foreman, “sucking the blood of children” attending schools. Education can never be self-sufficient, and if it is so, it cannot be called education in the true sense of the word; it will be mere instruction.

There are many people who advocate the opening of a large number of commercial colleges and technological institutions. The proposal seems to be entirely similar to the story of the man who, having earned a couple of rupees, invested them in the purchase of a whip in the hope of being able to buy a horse at some distant future. Technological and commercial institutes cannot be productive of any good unless there is corresponding progress in the establishing of new industries and expansion of old ones. Industrialisation must come first; otherwise the large number of students who would pass out of these institutions could not be absorbed in the existing industries of the country. They would merely swell the rank of the unemployed and would aggravate the present state of discontent. The greatest difficulty of the

present time is the attempt to impart “painless education”, and it is aggravated by the policy of drift.

Finally it must be pointed out that it would be a mistaken policy to starve the universities and colleges to provide for primary education. The latter is certainly essential for the creation of good citizens, but the production of one man with ideas and capacity for original thinking is worth more to the nation than a large number of men with average ability. The real purpose of a university is not merely to provide technical training for certain professions, nor even to extend the bounds of knowledge and create an atmosphere of inquiry, but its chief value to a community lies in the fact that it provides the mental discipline and plasticity which enables its alumni to adopt themselves to any kind of activity. In other words, its real purpose is to give its students a deeper insight into the nature of the universe and a fuller understanding of the motives and behaviour of their fellow-men.

NOTES & COMMENTS

NOBODY WILLING TO BELL THE CAT

The Andhra State appointed a Committee presided over by Mr. Ramamurthy to enquire into the working of prohibition. The report of the Committee was as damning of the so-called “prohibition” as it was possible to be. Now the normal sensible procedure would have been for Prakasam's

Government to accept the whole, or as much of the recommendations, of the Ramamurthy Committee as it liked. But it shirked responsibility, and passed it on to the Atlantean shoulders of Pandit Nehru. Pandit Nehru, in his turn, did not like to do the proper thing as it would have rubbed the Tandonians in the Congress the wrong way and asked the Congress W. C. to give its verdict. The W. C., as is usual with it, gave out a lot of froth and gas, talked loftily of "the financial aspect of prohibition should not influence the course of policy and action", but all the same did not say anything definite but handed over the baby to the Planning Commission. The latter again has conveniently managed to slip the question into the hands of an *ad hoc* Committee. The *ad hoc* Committee has not been formed yet but its members would perhaps refer the whole question to the Andhra Cabinet for "careful consideration", thus completing the full cycle. Prakasam may again refer to the Congress President and thus start the second cycle.

Prakasam wanted some relaxation of "prohibition" to enable him to meet at least partially, his budget deficit of almost 8 crores. This was originally suggested by Justice Wanchoo. But the politicians are not facing the problem in a straightforward manner and are taking refuge in a mass of meaningless verbiage. However, as Prakasam could not wait till the Congress High Command made up its mind, he has already allowed tapping of

palm trees and selling toddy in Andhra, only it has to be called NIRA and not by its proper name. He is also thinking of permitting the free sale of wines and spirituous liquors "on medical grounds." As hypocrisy is the life breath of our politicians, no one should blame Prakasam for retaining "prohibition" and jettisoning it at the same time.

Compared with such duplicity, one notices with appreciation the bold stand of Mr. Brish Bhan, the Finance Minister of Pepsu, who bluntly told his Legislative Assembly that the financial limitations of the State did not permit of any toying with prohibition. He added categorically: "THE GOVERNMENT DO NOT WANT ANY PROHIBITION HERE. In Bihar too, our Finance Minister has also refused to have do anything with the 'prohibition' nonsense.

BEEN AND GONE AND DONE IT

There was a time when every progressive movement in India had its origin in Bengal. Bengal had fallen from grace for some time past but, as a recent event showed, not completely. There are ardent Tandonians in Bihar and U. P. but all their achievements in eliminating the English language and replacing it by the Rastrabhaava have been put to shame by the University of West Bengal which ordered the candidates appearing in B. A. Honours Economics to answer the questions in the language of the Indian Union. As far as we know none of the universities of Bihar

or U. P. (where Hindi is the language of the majority of people) has yet been able to make compulsory answering of papers in B. A. Honours subjects in Hindi. Progressive Bengal, the quintessence of whose culture is embodied in the University of Calcutta, has taken a bold step for which it deserves the warmest praise from us all.

OUR CONGRATS

Uttar Pradesh is now the Bretwalda among all the States of the Indian Union. Its language is the language of the Indian Union and not only is it the home of Pandit Nehru but also that of the large majority of the Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Ministers of State and Ministers of other kinds who are ruling India to-day. It is natural that Uttar Pradesh will realise that it has duties corresponding to its exalted position. It is the only State that has taken steps to reduce the population of this heavily over-populated country. Scorning Princess Amrit Kaur's safe period method (which may have some effect on India's population after a thousand years or more, Uttar Pradesh has taken to "direct action" in reducing India's population. Over a thousand were given a direct ticket to Heaven in the V. I. P. Kumbh in February last. Another 40 (or so) have also been despatched by gelignite. Their bodies were seen flying skyward and it may be presumed that they too have gone to the "better land." The Jagatbela incident, however, not only adorns a tale but also carries a moral.

it is that V. I. P's—the uncrowned potentates of democratic India—should never undertake a railway journey. They don't do so ordinarily—luxurious aeroplanes and costly limousines are good enough for them—but very occasionally they sometimes do undertake railway journeys in specially air-conditioned coaches. With the latest hazard in railway travel they should refrain from making use of trains. The death of even a million ordinary men is of no consequence, but the lives of our V. I. P's are precious and **SAFETY FIRST** should be their motto. The country cannot afford to lose a single one of this irreplaceable band.

THE LAW GIVERS' REMUNERATION

The law givers of New Delhi have been complaining about the reduction of their allowance from Rs. 45 to Rs. 40 although they were allowed to draw 1³/₈ first class fare each way but really travelling second class. To mollify them, the Government of India have proposed to give them a monthly salary of Rs. 400, **SUBJECT TO INCOME TAX**, a daily allowance of Rs. 15 plus two second class railway passes and one third class railway pass for travel from anywhere to anywhere in India throughout the year. The clause "subject to income tax" does not mean much. It will amount to about Rs. 10 per month.

There is quite a number of Honourable Members who sublet their official quarters in New Delhi at black market rates,

who travel intermediate class and charge 1³/₈ first class fare. These back benchers, who spend their time mostly in smoking and drinking and are shooed by the whip at the time when hands have to be raised, will welcome the go-anywhere railway passes as these can be rented out easily.

NO CHIP OF THE OLD BLOCK

The Income Tax Officer, Salaries Circle, Bombay has sent notices to several Insurance Companies ordering stoppage of any payment to Sardar Patel's scapegrace son Dayabhai Patel. It is alleged that this Dayabhai (a well-known dealer of cars in the black market in the early days of India's independence.) has not paid income tax dues amounting to Rs. 5 lakhs 24 thousand and 8 only.

A POLITICAL WEATHERCOCK

Rattom Thanu Pillai, the present Chief Minister of Trachin was a Congressite to start with, then he renounced Gandhism and became a Praja-Socialist. During General Elections he hob-nobbed with the Communists and was a fellow traveller. After the elections, he broke the *marriage de convenance* and became Chief Minister with Congress support and has issued an appeal to all Government servants in the name of integrity, decency and democracy, of which his career and politics provides such a glorious example.

MINOR LOSSES

The U. P. Government, in

all departments, has lost a sum of Rs. 4,83,000 through embezzlements. The quota of the Police Department is Rs. 77,000.

x x x
The U.P. Government pays a non-practising allowance to such doctors of medicine in

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SHORT WAVE

1st May, 1954

State employ as are not allowed private practice. Among the doctors receiving this allowance is a Ph. D., a biochemist in the physiological department of Lucknow Medical College. The reason for this special favour to a non-medical man is that he is the brother-in-law of a Congress M. L. A.

A CAMOUFLAGE THAT DECEIVED NOBODY

The Andhra Government has decided to provide employment for 3,000,000 tappers of toddy by allowing them tap NERA. Everybody knows that NERA is unfermented palm juice which can be allowed to ferment and transform itself to toddy. Not having the moral courage to say frankly that "prohibition" has been a dismal failure, a potent source of corruption, Prakasam's Cabinet has permitted pass to tap palm trees and the people to drink toddy. The Congress rulers of Andhra have been able to maintain the facade of "prohibition" while bringing in toddy by the back door.

A COMPARISON

The average adult male manual worker in Britain to-day works a 48 hour week and gets a weekly wage of Rs. 126, i.e., Rs. 546 a month.

A FIASCO

The elections recently held for the Patna Municipal Corporation should be considered as null and void because the serial number in the list of voters was also noted on the ballot paper, making it an easy matter to find out who voted for whom. There may or may not

be another election but Government servant who gave assurance to the two bastions of Congress Party, viz. Sundari Devi and Rampiyari Devi, but did not vote for them, are now in a blue funk.

CLARIFICATION

Dag Hammarskjöld, the Secretary General of the U.N., has said that American members of the Truce Observer Group in Kashmir must be considered as neutrals.

This means that it does not matter whether they are really neutral or not, in the files of the U. N. they are entered as neutrals, and the U. N. must consider them neutrals, irrespective of what others may say.

KILLING SMALL INDUSTRIES

According to the Government of India 1953-54 Budget, art silk fabrics have to pay a duty of one anna nine pies per yard on stocks with manufacturers on and from 1st March, 1954. The art silk manufacturers feel that this duty imposes a severe burden and, as the result, 26 art silk mills in Greater Bombay and 86 in Surat have issued notices of closure, according to the silk and Art Silk Mill's Association. If these notices take effect by the middle of April nearly 14,000 workers will be without jobs, 8,000 in Greater Bombay and 6,000 in Surat.

The Welfare State is apparently not a believer in cleanliness or it would have refrained from imposing an excise duty on all soap. But apart from

the hardship of the common man who uses soap, the weaker section of the soap-making industry will be in great difficulty. This "deshi" section has been labouring under so many disadvantages, that it cannot bear the duty at the same rate which the other half (Lever Brothers) can. That the duty can only be partly passed on to consumers has now been demonstrated by the decision of the soap-makers to raise prices by only half of the excise duty."

The 10 per cent duty on factory made shoes largely used by the poorer section of the population will weigh heavy on the consumer. But it may be argued on behalf of Deshmukh that there is no need for people in Ramraj to wear leather or canvas-rubber shoes. Wooden clogs

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are good enough for them, or they can go barefooted even.

A BIT CONFUSING

Addressing the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry Pandit Nehru told the assembled industrialists :

"We want the latest and and highest techniques to develop, we want far higher technique to develop than most of the people here are used to. You are used to ancient machinery and ancient techniques and you are completely out of date. You talk about higher techniques without even knowing what the latest techniques are. I am going to use atomic energy to upset all your techniques one of these years'. [Somebody (Bhatnagar?) must have given him the atomic energy idea.] But, he continued "Higher techniques will, of course, create more employment but there may be a gap period for many years and we cannot afford to have a gap-period."

And, therefore, we cannot have higher techniques, nor the latest technique of atomic energy and our out-of-date ancient technique wallas may go on happily in their own way as if atomic energy and its threatening user did not exist.

A PERSONAL GRUDGE

In the debate in the House of the People on the repressive bill to muzzle the Press. Mr. Frank Anthony said : "it is a savage measure because it will be used to penalise people... against whom you cannot prove an ordinary offence, against whom you have no evidence

which would be tenable or acceptable in a court of law."

The only argument that Katju could bring forth in justification of this harsh measure was that some obscure rag somewhere had the impertinence to suggest that Katju went to Calcutta every evening from Kalyani to get something

that was not available in that camp of luxury and comfort. Some guess that this something was Scotch whiskey. If Katju is really a tectotaler he should have laughed at the insinuation. We don't think even a Home Minister suffers from loss of dignity and prestige by having his evening peg.



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society. The citizen must be sturdy, intelligent, educated, morally endowed and disciplined: he must be prepared for self-defence and for the defence of the country; he must increase the country's wealth and strive in every way to do good to the community. This is what dharma is; this alone can fulfil and satisfy man's urge for activity. Moreover, the man, who is devoted to God, that is who can find peace and joy in adapting himself to the order of the universe, who can satisfy in this way his emotions, can derive all-round contentment from his conduct. He who is averse to activity and is immersed only in the spirit of pious contemplation may be a non-attached being, but still he is one-sided, his religious practice is not perfect and is not at all a model for the common man. He who is devoted solely to physical culture or to learning is also limited to a part only of dharma. Renunciation is not meant for all, everyone can practise dharma according to one's taste or inclination and in that way, may have the joy of complete fulfilment. But if people observe outward ceremony only and practise the cult of blind faith while ignoring the other aspects of dharma, then there cannot be all-round progress.

Bankimchandra has inter-

preted dharma in his essay, "Anushilan" in his book named *Dharma tattva*; many other thinkers also have, after him, expressed similar views. In our times Vivekananda is perhaps the only *Sannyasin* who has propagated all over India a manly religion suited to the needs of our age. In recent times many religious preceptors have made their appearance in this country; they have numerous disciples also. They preach mainly the cult of Bhakti and the miracles of God. From their words many disciples find comfort in sorrow and inspiration for such virtues as kindness, forbearance and restraint. But their religious teachings are not of a kind that could help improve our national character. According to their disciples, some of them are able, by miraculous powers, to give material prosperity to the faithful, cure diseases, help win law-suits and perform a variety of magic feats. Some are claimed by their disciples to be incarnations of God or God Himself. The Guru does neither deny nor rebuke the disciples for such blasphemy. Whatever other things we may lack, there is no lack of saviours. To protect the honest and to destroy the wicked—this is the avatar's true vocation, Why don't

they give a little attention to this?

It is often heard that religious education should be provided at schools. In our secular State, at schools may be taught only that universally acceptable and all-round religion which is beneficial to the society and the State and capable of improving the national character. Teachers themselves should take charge of this and should, besides imparting knowledge, teach students from boyhood their social and political duties. Those who are young today will be called upon in the future to run the State; there should be no delay in making arrangements for their training and character-building. When workers strike, the government or the employers come to terms to get over immediate difficulties, and they reluctantly spend a lot of money. Perhaps much of this money could be better spent. But the work of teachers shows no immediate results, Government that account the teacher do not realise that the teacher must be kept contented, even by depriving many other branches of administration, so that the teacher does not suffer from want and is able to devote fully all his energies to the task of education.

The Thing From Our Planet

Eleven years and four months ago—on December 2, 1942—a group of physicists stood tensely watching a massive structure set in a squash court at Stagg Field in Chicago. The structure was the world's first uranium pile. A signal was given. Instruments clicked, faster and faster. In a few moments the physicists knew from the clicking that inside the pile they had fashioned the first self-sustained nuclear reaction.

That was the dawn of the Nuclear Age. Since then the technology of the atom has advanced with heading speed. There came in 1945 the A-bomb and its introduction in war; in 1949 the achievement of the weapon by Russia; in 1952 America's counter with the successful test of a prototype of the H-bomb; in 1953 Russia replies with the announcement that the American 'monopoly' of thermo-nuclear weapon was broken; and then, in the Pacific, American test in the March and April that brought nuclear destructiveness to new heights.

Recently, the giant steps that man has been making in developing these weapons dominated the news in the world.

The U. S. revealed officially for the first time the awesome-ness of the power it has found in the atom. It gave the world a glimpse of the H-bomb in action and disclosed that it could wipe out any city on

earth. The question that troubled the scientists who contrived the chain reaction less than a dozen years ago persists: Will the human genius that opened the secrets of the atom be able to master it?

The awful dimensions of the H-bomb are conveyed by a new world 'megaton'. A megaton is the explosive force of 1,000,000 tons of T. N. T. The H-bomb exploded at Bikini on March 1 had a force of at least ten megatons—equal to 10,000,000 tons of T. N. T. The A-bomb dropped on Hiroshima had only one-five hundredth that much power. This is what a ten-megaton bomb will do.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION

* Cause total destruction by blast within a radius of four miles—an area of fifty square miles.

* Cause severe damage within a radius of eight miles—an area of 200 square miles.

* Cause moderate damage within a radius of fourteen miles—an area of 600 square miles.

* Destroy by fire within a radius of twenty miles—an area 800 square miles.

The difference between the A-bomb and H-bomb is the difference between fission and fusion. In the A-bomb, atom of heavy elements are split into atoms of lighter elements, with the release of tremendous heat and energy. In the H-bomb, atoms of lighter elements are fused into atoms of heavier

elements with far greater energy released. Fusion is what takes place in the burning of the sun. Tremendous heat is required to set it off.

With the development of A-bombs scientists knew that theoretically they had a heat potential that would make possible a fusion, or H-bomb. For a charge, they first decided to use two isotopes (variants) of hydrogen—deuterium and tritium. But these isotopes presented tremendous difficulties in cost of production and handling. The problem were overcome when scientists found a substitute in a combination of deuterium and lithium.

The size of an A-bomb is limited. When a certain amount of fissionable material uranium or plutonium is brought together it explodes. An H-bomb can be made of any size desired. But not so much explosive material is required for a holo caust-220 pounds of the relatively cheap lithium-deuterium compound is equivalent to 6,000,000 tons T. N. T.

Thus a nation that has the capacity to make A-bombs can call upon the power of the H-bomb. A stock pile of A bombs for triggers is potentially a stockpile of H-bombs.

Soon after recent tests at Bikini it was apparent that a bomb had been set off far out stripping the H-bomb prototype exploded on Nov. 2, 1953 Eniwetok.

UNICEF Battles Hunger, Disease Among Children

When disaster strikes, caused either by Nature or man, children suffer tremendously from hunger and disease—more so than their grief-stricken parents. And the almost continuous crying of starving infant will drive parents to desperate action, such as has occurred recently in the crop-shortage areas of northern Japan where families have sold some of their children to feed other family members.

Countries in the Far East have been particularly hard hit by recent disasters. Korea is trying to recover from three years of fighting large areas in Japan have been devastated by typhoons and floods, and famine has extended through northern Japan because of crop losses.

THE TRAGIC IMPACT of disasters in general has long demanded a combined world action which today finds its nerve center within the framework of the United Nations. In December 1946, United Nations sponsored the creation of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. Last year, the United Nations General Assembly voted to give the United Nations Children's Fund (still to be known as UNICEF) a permanent status with powers to aid children and mothers in devastated and under-developed areas throughout the world.

The cases of Japan and Korea are vivid examples of how UNICEF aid is extended.

IN JAPAN, a nation which is not a Member State of the United Nations, hundreds of thousands of children last year faced starvation. UNICEF moved in, however, and has approved an emergency allocation of \$132,000 which will be used to provide daily cups of milk, during nine months, for about 180,000 children in the typhoon area and 720,000 in the region suffering from crop failure. In addition to this emergency aid, UNICEF is helping to overcome the needs of mothers and children in southern Japan, where floods last summer caused widespread destruction.

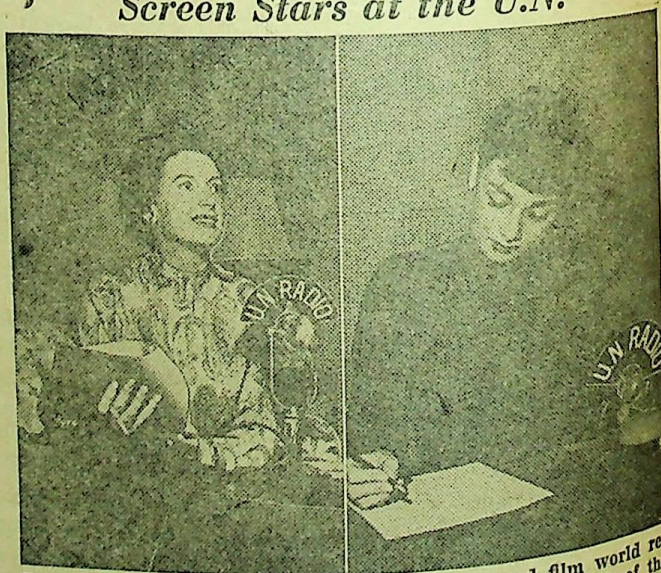
Milk is being provided for 425,000 children, and wool for clothing for the neediest.

IN KOREA, UNICEF has obtained a year's supply of dry skim milk for some two million Korean youngsters and mothers, as well as provided fish-liver-oil capsules for 150,000 children under the age of two, all for the sum of \$603,000.

In its work, UNICEF counts on voluntary contributions from all over the world, which range from \$857 pledged by Manaco for 1954 to the nearly \$10,000,000 paid in

(Contd. on page 396)

Screen Stars at the U.N.



Two outstanding personalities of the theater and film world recently donated their talents to tell the story of the work of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). At left is Deborah Kerr, British-born actress. Checking her script is Audrey Hepburn who has a fitting background for international stories. She was born of Dutch and Irish parentage in Belgium. In a special broadcast heard by millions in English-speaking countries, they joined with five other luminaries of stage and screen in dramatizing UNICEF's seven-year history of world-wide aid to needy mothers and children.

UNESCO Begins World-wide Fundamental Education

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization has embarked on a project of "teaching teachers" which it is hoped will reach 1,000,000 people.

By GEORGE D. STODDARD

(From *NEA JOURNAL*)

The first thing to note about UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization—is its organic relation to the United Nations. It is one of the specialized agencies of the parent body.

When the charter of the United Nations was drawn up in 1945, educators took a leading role. They persuaded the United States Secretary of State to make provision for the fostering of peace through education. Subsequently, representatives of international science unions sought a place in the new organization, while cultural leaders who did not regard themselves as falling within education or science combined to form the "C" in UNESCO. Among the latter group are representatives of journalism, radio, motion pictures, libraries, museums, the fine arts, agriculture, labour, and religion.

Membership in UNESCO is limited to nations. The number rose to 64 during the Sixth General Conference in Paris in July 1951. At that time five new governments were admitted—namely, the German Federal Republic, Japan, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

The full membership list, exceeding in number that of the United Nations itself, is a

striking demonstration of a world need. The only major power not represented is Soviet Russia. That nation cannot, or will not, join an organization whose constitution proclaims a belief in the "unrestricted pursuit of objective truth, and in the free exchange of ideas and knowledge," together with attempts "to increase the means of communication between their peoples and to employ these means for the purposes of mutual understanding and a truer and more perfect knowledge of each other's lives."

Fundamental to the program of UNESCO is its emphasis upon human rights. Americans know well that these rights are at times abridged in the United States, particularly in relation to race. Nevertheless, as with delinquency, crime or social deviations, this is not taken to be the will of the citizens of the United States. Rights cannot be granted simply by subscribing to a doctrine or signing a pledge, but nations like individuals, must start somewhere. There is nothing wrong about starting at a high level of idealism, if earnest attempts are made to translate ideals into action.

The principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights do not depend upon the immediate

ability of persons to profit by them. They do not wait upon the acceptance of responsibility; the rights must be given first. It has become the duty of all men to accept the responsibilities that go with rights. Only the free man can discover for himself that freedom does not remove the bad effects of bad choices—that freedom, to mean much, must be exercised within a framework of personal and civic virtue.

Inevitably, in the United States which has so many citizens' rights on the law books, the emphasis is on duty. In countries where rights have not been clarified, much less laid down in law, any campaign which emphasizes duties first will fail. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights says, in effect, that freedom is the sovereign virtue. Given freedom, together with full opportunity for advancement, one who knows where the responsibilities and can be judged accordingly.

In the Fifth Session of the General Conference in Florence, Italy, the emphasis upon program concentration took the form of official approval of the tasks of UNESCO. These are: To eliminate illiteracy and encourage fundamental education. To obtain for each person an education conforming

to his aptitudes and to the needs of society, including technological training and higher education. To promote through education increased respect for human rights throughout all nations. To overcome the obstacles to the free flow of persons, ideas, and knowledge between the countries of the world. To promote the progress and utilization of science for mankind. To study the causes of tensions that may lead to war and to fight them through education. To demonstrate world cultural interdependence. To advance through the press, radio, and motion pictures the cause of truth, freedom, and peace. To bring about better understanding among the peoples of the world and to convince them of the necessity of cooperating loyalty with one another in the frame work of the United Nations. To render clearing-house and exchange services in all its fields of action, together with services in all reconstruction and relief assistance.

At the Sixth Conference in Paris in 1951, these 10 main tasks and a few auxiliary ones were implemented by about 140 program resolutions.

The program in basic or fundamental education has become the largest single project in UNESCO's field. It is, in the aggregate, the largest educational project ever undertaken in the history of civilization. It calls for the eradication of the illiteracy the world over—for education not only in terms of reading, writing, and arithmetic, but in terms also of

basic scientific and civic principles for about 1,000,000,000 persons.

The ability to read and write is regarded as crucial to economy and political progress. It calls upon the mental abilities of young and old. In fact, classes already begun under the sponsorship of UNESCO include persons from five to 80 years of age. Without the basic achievements of reading and writing there is no promise for the next level of education which introduces young people to science, technology, art, literature and world affairs. There is no hope under illiteracy for development in agriculture, engineering, or medicine.

Accordingly the United States delegations in UNESCO have supported programs in fundamental education. The Director General of UNESCO, Jaime Torres Bodet, as the former minister of education in Mexico was distinguished for his work in improving the education of Mexican people. It is not accidental that the first training school has been established in Patzcuaro, Mexico, through the cooperation of several Latin American countries and UNESCO. The UNESCO publication, *The Courier*, has reported as follows:

"Latin American educators long have realised that illiteracy is virtually a synonym for hunger, disease, poverty, and wastage of human resources. For decades they work on the principle that that illiteracy is only part of a way of life that must be changed. Liberty for his own sake is not enough.

"The key to this change in the teacher, Mass-produced drugs can be used to attack diseases as yaws and malaria, but there is no-such thing as a mass-produced teacher. And teachers are needed to attack illiteracy and ignorance and the other 'diseases' that spring from them to afflict the people,

Educators can point to many examples where campaigns against the ignorance and low living standards, even though they have started off in a spectacular way, have slowed down and failed to produce lasting results in the face of a shortage of teachers and educational materials...

"Latin America therefore will be the first of five regions—the others are to the Far East, India, the Middle East, and Equatorial Africa—to benefit from the work of what UNESCO calls a fundamental education training and production center'. With the

(Continued from page 394)
by the United States
last year.

UNICEF work has touched the hearts of people in all walks of life, as evidenced in the source of private contributions to the Fund. Returns so far tabulated from children's Halloween (Oct 30) parties in the U. S. last year show a yield of \$87,000 for the Fund, while the auctioning of a bale of cotton and contributions from participants in the Sudan Fall (Texas) Festival in September produced \$750.27 which was turned over to UNICEF.

1st May, 1954

other regions it comes under a \$20,000,000 dollars twelve-year plan to create a world network of six such centers, training some 4,000 fundamental education teachers of teachers."

The specialists in fundamental education include experts not only in reading and writing but also in hygiene, home, economics and practical farming, and the handicraft industry. The first words and sentences are made to do duty in terms of the common needs of common people. It is not something thrust upon them from above.

There rarely has been found evidence of a lack of ability to learn on the part of young children. In UNESCO demonstrations this ability is unearthed like so much ore that has rested for centuries in the hills without contributing to the general welfare. UNESCO's role is to initiate, to demonstrate, to train leaders, to stimulate governments and intergovernmental cooperation.

The money for this must come from the people themselves and from their governments. As men begin to study the natural resources of their countries and the way in which industry and agriculture transform wealth, they will be able to pay for schools, facilities, and teachers, finally reaching upward toward secondary and college education.

This is the future for all countries. If all goes well, there will be a renaissance in education perhaps equalling what the United States accomplished

through published schools and land-grant colleges.

Education does not insure cooperation among the free nations of the world, but it does give a firm basis for such cooperation. It enables leaders and governments better to understand the need for unity. UNESCO itself is no

broad highway but it is a path which thousands of persons in the United States have found to lead somewhere. The idea is not to embrace the United Nations as a completed plan, but rather to make of it something desired by the mind and heart—the best hope of mankind for a peaceful outcome of the present world struggle.

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A Pen-Portrait of Pakistan's Foreign Minister

I once heard Sir Muhammed Zafrulla Khan described as certainly the most extraordinary political figure in the world's most extraordinary country. I thought the description an apt one. The fact that this man has retained, or has been retained in Foreign Ministership of Pakistan practically from the moment of that unique nation's birth over six years ago proves two things: that he is exceptionally talented, and that, despite what some critics may say, Pakistan is fundamentally a pretty tolerant sort of place. For Zafrullah is heterodox—personally, politically, and religiously. By profession he is lawyer by deposition I should say solitary; he may appear not only aloof but arrogant; by no means devoted, indeed, of the social graces of wit and honour, of diplomatic finesse, but perhaps too liable to scorn them; a man who has no use at all for fools.

I well recall my first meeting with him in the early 1930s, I had been asked to a party by Khwaja Hassan Nizami, hereditary guardian of the shrine of Nizam-ud-Din Aulia, a little way out of Delhi; and shortly before my host had rung up to mention that his two other British guests had dropped out, and I would be the only non-Muslim there. On the spur of the moment I blurted out: 'May I come in Muslim clothes, then?' He professed himself pleased, as perhaps he was. And so, wearing pointed slippers, baggy-white Punjabi trousers a tight-fitting achkan coat, and a high-crested turban, I sailed forth.

Now it happened that the

eminent poet Iqbal, whom I have never met, was a fellow guest. And from his remarks it soon became clear that he assumed, because of my clothes, that I must be some sort of European convert to Islam, unknown to him. Other guests noticed this and egged me on. Soon we had the great Iqbal completely bewildered. And then Zafrullah joined our little smiling group-talk, detached, dour. His quick mind grasped what was afoot; and his manner at once indicated distaste. What was the unseemly charade, he seemed to say, and who was this young foreign upstart in fancy dress, who mocked the great and on a matter affecting religion, too? Cold water flung itself over the flowering of our little joke.

ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE.

That glimpse from memories of years ago reveals, I think significant aspect of Zafrullah's character. A lonely man; grave; blunt with a Punjabi's bluntless; and showing scant regard sometimes for other's feelings. These are not qualities that make for easy popularity. Respected though he is in Pakistan for his obviously great abilities, useful and necessary though he is usually reckoned to be, I think it would be true to say that he has never been rated nearly so highly at home as abroad. Many Pakistanis fail to realise how very immensely he has added to their country's stature upon this international stage.

A further reason for this rather negative attitude towards him is that, though he has so long held political office

he is not really a politician and lacks any organised political backing among the public. True, in 1931 he was President of the Muslim League; but that was long ago, when the League was little or more than a debating society for a handful of professional men, intellectuals, and feudal landholders—a very different body from the mass organisation that it later became.

From the middle 1930s, when he was offered a post on a Viceroy's Executive Council until December, 1947, he was practically out of party affairs altogether, bust with administration and the law. He held three successive and important executive offices in the Delhi Government under the British regime, some of them during the hard years of war, and was for a while also that Government's Agent-General in China; he served, too, for several years as a judge of the Federal Court, and in the summer of 1947 became constitutional adviser to one of the former ruling princes—the Nawab of Bhopal.

And not only, throughout these crucial years, was he not an active member of the Muslim League, and consequently not one of the creators of Pakistan; in the post-war period, at a Commonwealth Conference in London, he actually criticised the proposed partitioning of the old India, the very basis of the Pakistan concept. Such conduct would have meant political death of the great majority of Pakistan to be. But so outstanding as he that the mighty Mr. Jinnah, normally a stickler

for ideological correctitude soon brought himself to invite the recalcitrant to accept one of the biggest Cabinet Offices that Pakistani public life could offer the Foreign Ministry. Evidently the founder of the state well recognised that Pakistan could not afford to neglect such shining talents.

A filmsier person, so as to prove his future loyalty would now have hastened to do that orthodox Muslim Leaguers had in the summer of 1946. from general exasperation with British Policy at that time: he would have cast away his British titles. Not so Zaffrullah. Look him up in who's who and compare him there with other Pakistani personages such as Mr. Ghulam Mohammad or Khwaja Nazimuddin. The knightships they were once pleased to accept are meticulously enclosed in brackets. He, on, the other hand, still stands forth unshamedly as Knight Commander of the Star of India, and Knight Bachelor.

Such almost freakish individualism would require guts under any conditions. In his case it needs them much more because of his further and perhaps gravest herodoxy in religion. He is a devout, undeviating adherent of that peculiar sect in Islam known as the Qadianis, around which such bitter controversy has raged ever since its emergence in the 1880s. Many Muslims continue to feel passionately opposed to it mainly because, in their eyes, its founder, Mirza Ghulam Ahmed, strove to put himself

not far short of equality with the Prophet Mohammad himself. In parts of the Islamic world Qadianis are generally not recognised as Muslims at all.

The acute political crisis in Pakistan in the spring of 1953 which culminated in the dismissal of Prime Minister Nazimuddin was associated with alarming anti-Qadiani riots in Karachi and in several big Punjab towns, a big factor in which had been popular clamour for the removal of a Qadiani from the Foreign Ministership. Though Pakistan surmounted that upheaval successfully, latent antagonism to the sect remains very strong.

So you will agree, I think, that the remark which I quoted at the start, about Sir Zafrullah being Pakistan's 'most extraordinary political figure, is well justified on three distinct counts: those of character, career, and creed. And now what shall we say of this man's handling of Pakistan's foreign policy during the difficult years since her birth in which has had direction of it? Here his approach has necessarily been that of an intellectual and a lawyer rather than of a politician.

ESSENTIALLY A BALANCING INFLUENCE

As the most populous Muslim country that exists, Pakistan has been energetic in seeking partnership with other Muslim lands. Success so far has been scanty. What about relations with India—a country doubly Pakistan's neighbour,

both to east and to west, owing to Pakistan's extraordinary geography? It cannot be said Zafrullah has improved these relations. Nor, probably, could it be said that they are capable of much improvement so long as fundamental disputes persist such as that over Kashmir. But it is at any rate hard to think of any possible alternative Pakistani Foreign Minister who could have upheld relations with India since partition on even their present far-from-ideal basis.

For Zafrullah is essentially a moderate, a balancing influence a man who, as his avoidance of participation in the dramatic events between 1945 and 1947 showed, has little taste for drastic or revolutionary courses. The political survival of such a man amidst the big crisis in Pakistan of April, 1953, was an astonishing phenomenon, and proof, I think, of the existence of much basic good sense within the Pakistani State. Continuance on this experienced realist at the helm of foreign relations suggests, for example, that whether republican or no, Pakistan will remain in the Commonwealth, at any rate so long as the balance of material advantage seems to point that way. It suggests, too, she will be kind to her minorities, for has she not got, in her Foreign Minister, a man who in more senses than one is a minority type himself? Here therefore is an extraordinary figure and a great one both by his gifts and by what he symbolises: a very necessary sort of figure nowadays, for his country and for the world

—Ian Stephens

Letter

Case of Sri Nagendra Nath Bhattacharya

The glaring instance of systematic and persistent harassment and vindictive victimization of a T.U. leader by the officials of New India, is given below. The victim of this persecution is Sri Nagendra Nath Bhattacharya, an ex-employee of the said Coy. At Patna Br. Office.

The Coy. dismissed him at a time when he was hanging between life and death suffering from serious illness, on 30. 4. 1949. No medical aid was given to him, legitimate dues, earned leave etc., were robbed of, even leave on medical grounds was not allowed in this appalling and dire distress to a permanent cadre by this bureaucrat firm.

He was sacked for the only fault of trying to form a trade union and was the moving spirit in the aspirations to form T. U. of Patna Office. Meetings were held and the Union Office was housed at his home. He being the prime mover and ring-leader was the special target of the bosses and always received insulting and humiliating behaviour.

In our opinion this is a wrongful, unjustified and summary dismissal and by fraudulent methods. No show cause notice or a letter in lieu thereof was sent to him prior to dismissal. This second largest Insurance Coy. of Asia has no Service Code and so they were emboldened in the trade of exploitation, took forcibly the menial duty of signboard hoisting etc., from Sri Bhattacharya.

The Coy has contemptuously flouted the decisive advice of the Conciliation Officer (Central) to re-instate him. Subsequent reports of the Labour Inspectors (Central) also show that the dismissal was not straight forward.

By spending fabulous amount (over 25 thousand) of policy-holders and public hard earned money in litigation and etc. the Coy. has been able to bloc the course of Adjudication and arbitration by exploiting some technical flaws in the case, and has always avoided a forum where the merits of the case could be judged. This is how this die-hard Coy—ill spends public money.

For half a decade the case has been lingering and this gallant fighter without any employment and ceaseless struggle against the injustice done to him facing much trouble and stood on the verge of penury with a number of innocent children, only to resist the shameless and ruthless attack upon the T. U. rights and freedom of the workmen.

The Bihar Provincial Bank Employees' Association condemns the attack by the bosses of the New India Coy on the T. U. rights of the employees and demands immediate reinstatement of Sri Bhattacharya and payment of full compensation to him for the involuntary unemployment so far imposed on him.

We appeal to the Government that the dispute be immediately referred to a Tribunal to meet the ends of justice. We also appeal to the T. U. workers and the toiling millions of the ancient land in the name of social justice to render help to the just cause of Sri Bhattacharya to curb the lawless practices of the employer and secure justice to this five-year old case which will also serve as a beacon light to the working class. We also demand expulsion of officers of Patna Branch, who are reported to have victimised all the pioneers of T. U. activities and total eclipse of the Coy's business from the horizon of Behar for the interest of industrial peace.

P. K. Biswas
General Secretary Bihar
Provincial Bank Employees'
Association.

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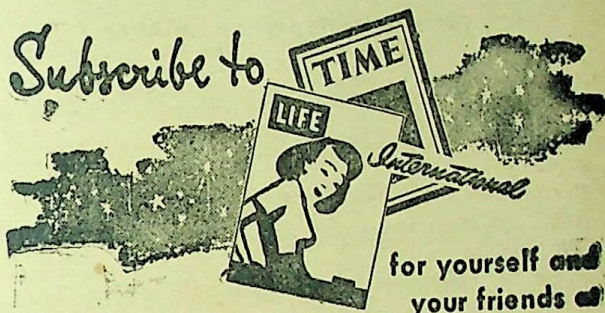
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