

# Skeletons Dance In Tata's Cupboard

## Cross Roads

VOICE OF DEMOCRATIC INDIA

## ★ SINISTER STORY BEHIND AIR-INDIA RESIGNATIONS

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From Our Staff Reporter

### EDITORIAL

## For Settlement In Telengana

**D**URING the last fortnight all eyes were turned on Hyderabad, anxiously watching the prospects of a settlement in Telengana. The initiative of the Communist Party of India in opening negotiations with the Hyderabad Government roused great hopes all over the country.

But these hopes have received a rude setback by the refusal of the Hyderabad Government to make its stand clear. The representatives of the CPI—A. K. Gopalan, Muzaffar Ahmed, Jyoti Basu—had placed clear-cut proposals before the Government to restore normal conditions in Telengana.

- i) No eviction of peasants till a Constituent Assembly decides the issue of land;
- ii) The lifting of the ban on the Party, release of all prisoners and cancellation of all warrants;
- iii) Withdrawal of all troops and reserve police forces from Telengana.

Preceding these proposals had come the declaration of the Central Committee of the CPI disapproving of all individual and squad terrorism. This has been even more emphatically reiterated by A. K. Gopalan in his recent Press conference.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY HAS FULLY DEMONSTRATED ITS EAGERNESS FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN CONSONANCE WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE PEASANTRY.

Can any patriot take exception to the proposal that the issue of land be left to the Telengana people, to decide through their elected representatives? Only one thing is being asked for now: The peasant must not be thrown out of the land he tills.

The Hyderabad Government, however, has given not the slightest evidence that it wants a settlement. Not only has it not replied to the Communist proposals. It placed a blanket ban on public meetings in Hyderabad which the Communist leaders were to address on the general elections during their stay there. Is this the Congress way of ensuring full opportunity for free and fair elections?

For over 3½ years Telengana has been in the grip of a military-cum-police rule causing untold suffering for the people. Every year Rs. 7½ crores have gone down the drain in a vain attempt to restore landlordism and all the oppression and exploitation that go with it which had been dealt a mortal blow by the peasantry as far back as 1946.

There are now only two alternatives before the Government. Either suppress the whole population in the name of putting down Communist "violence" or put a stop to all evictions and repression and restore normal democratic conditions. The first course the people will resist with all their might. The second course will have the support of all fair-minded people.

GOVERNMENT'S SILENCE CAN ONLY BE REGARDED BY THE PEOPLE AS ITS REFUSAL TO RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC WAYS AND TO CONTINUE TO SERVE THE LANDLORDS THROUGH THE MILITARY REGIME IT HAS INSTALLED.

The Telengana issue affects the whole country. A just settlement will be a victory of the democratic forces. It is the duty of all mass organisations and progressives to popularise the demands of the Telengana peasantry and compel the Government to accept them.

**BOMBAY:** Years of nepotism and discrimination, communalism and favouritism in the House of Tata, which had been blacked-out in the Indian Press by the skilful use of advertising blackmail, have now become public property with the resignations of nearly all the senior and most experienced executives and pilots of AIR-INDIA. And with the resignations emerges the sinister and hitherto subtle conspiracy to disrupt even the Government of India's "nationalisation" plans.

**O**VER the past year, under the direct supervision of Mr. J. R. D. Tata, so-called "pioneer of aviation in India", an attempt has been made to promote to key positions in the AIR-INDIA Organisation a whole lot of junior and inexperienced employees, overwhelmingly Parsee, despite the strongest and vehement protests of senior Indian employees of the firm.

The sinister plan took the following pattern: Retrench, transfer and force resignations by harassment of all those holding key positions in AIR-INDIA who might be agreeable to working for Government, should nationalisation be put through. Replace them by puppets who would refuse to work for Government and who, at the appropriate time, could "en masse" be absorbed in other Tata concerns. In short, confront "damn fool Kidwai", as they call him, with an "Abadan".

But the Tata Chiefs miscalculated. The provocation was so great, and the favouritism so obvious, that an amazing unity developed among the top salary-earning executives. They fought doggedly against the shameful tactics of the Tata Chiefs, and, when finally there was no other alternative left, they resigned in a body.

It is sought to be made out by the Tata hierarchy that those

man in India. Among the reasons given by him for resigning are, favouritism, communalism, unjustified retrenchment and that all his powers have been taken away.

—MR. W. V. FIGGINS, Eu-  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Govt.'s New Election TRICK

**From Our Correspondent**  
**D**ELHI: Over Rs. 2 crores of orders have been placed by Congress Governments for cars, trucks, and vehicles of all sorts. It looks simple enough, but it isn't so.

The Congress chiefs, finding it difficult to raise funds for electioneering, have had a brain-wave. New transport is being ordered for government on the understanding that Congress Committees all over the country will purchase "second-hand" government transport at break-down prices.

Official Government Accountants have been "squared" or "persuaded".



J. R. D. Tata

who have resigned are knaves and fools, inefficient, lazy types. But the facts speak differently. Who are those who have resigned? Take the careers of a few:

—MR. M. MATHULAH has served Tatas for well over 15 years in the most responsible positions. He has been more or less in-charge of AIR-INDIA.

—MR. K. BHORE, General Manager at Santa Cruz, considered the most brilliant aviation

**We Give You Guns You Supply Men**

—MARSHALL (See P. 4)

## Carpet Gen.Auc. Fools Cariappa

From Our Correspondent

**K**ARACHI: Field Marshal Auchinleck, former Commander-in-Chief of India's armed forces and now a big business tycoon, has been boasting in Pakistan that during his recent two-day visit to India, he refused an invitation of Commander-in-Chief Cariappa who had asked him to visit Delhi and stay with him.

The General was reported to have told Cariappa that he was no longer in the habit of staying with military men! But what does he do in Pakistan? This trusted friend of the British Government, who pretends that he is in Pakistan to launch a "carpet-making factory", has in fact been inspecting the military frontiers of Pakistan, even as far as East Bengal.

Auchinleck also took a leading part in a "paper exercise" held by the Military Staff College at Quetta. The model for the exercise was none other than the State of Kashmir. The carpet-bagger, establishing his bonafides, so to say!

And despite this, the Prime Minister of Britain denies that British officers are assisting Pakistan in the warlike preparations!



TENTACLES OF WASHINGTON OCTOPUS



# STORM IN AIR-INDIA

(Continued from page 1)

ropean Manager, who has been a trusted Tata man for years.

—MR. RAO, Madras Manager, who helped plot air routes in India.

—CAPTAINS KHAN, VISHWANATHAN and MANCHANDA, considered by all AIR-INDIA employees as among the most experienced pilots on the international route. In all nine pilots have resigned.

Yes, Tatas have made it impossible for the best to continue in service so that inexperienced bumpkins can have a field day making a horrible mess of air transport in this country. Even the Government is so perturbed by the news that Minister Kidwai is anxious to institute a public enquiry. And there's much to enquire into.

● J. R. D. Tata is already negotiating to employ, as Pakistan has done, droves of foreign adventurers who call themselves pilots. In addition, negotiations have been completed to employ as chief engineer, a German national. Perhaps, Nazi air expert Willie Messerschmidt, who was recently in India, proposed such an "orientation"!

● Plans to retrench a fresh lot of employees are well under way. Here again, retrenchment is an excuse to throw out all those who are considered "unreliable" by the Tata Chiefs.

● A wholesale reorganisation is sought in the Traffic and Accounts Departments, which have been under public fire for some time, to cover up embarrassing facts. For example, it is alleged, that the AIR-INDIA Balance

Sheet for 1950-51 shows Rs. 27½ lakhs for maintenance and engineering including the write off of stores and spare parts while many of the stores and spare parts thus shown are still being utilised.

Another fantastic business is the depreciation mystery. Since 1946, AIR-INDIA, which has a capital of Rs. 1½ crores, has shown a depreciation of nearly Rs. 86 lakhs. So high is the rate of depreciation that AIR-INDIA will, it is believed, be able to replace the present Dakotas, purchased from disposals at about Rs. 1¼ lakhs each, with new machines valued at between Rs. 7 to 8 lakhs—and this at no additional cost!

● Employees are being retrenched on the plea of reducing costs, but at the same time AIR-INDIA INTERNATIONAL, which depends almost entirely on the labours of the local AIR-INDIA employees, shows a profit of Rs. 18 lakhs in 1950.

THIS WHOLE DISGUSTING BUSINESS CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE PUBLIC ENQUIRY, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE ENTIRE AIR-INDIA CONCERN, BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL, WORKS ON PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

So grave is the situation that more resignations are threatened. One fairly reliable report claims that Dr. John Matthai, ex-Finance Minister and Tata Director, has decided to resign or "retire" so as not to cause undue embarrassment to a firm that he has served so long.

I learn that the sordid deal was finalised by the Managing Trustee of the NAVJIVAN TRUST, Sree Jeevanji D. Desai on June 28 with the blessings and full support of Morarji. It means that never will any Indian producer have the right to make a film on Gandhiji's life.

For a few paltry dollars the White Caps have bartered the Mahatma, lock, stock and barrel, to the Yanks—to be trimmed, twisted, and turned, according to their present-day requirements.

## He Only Looked!

FOR only looking at a 17-year-old White girl, a Negro (40) was sentenced recently to two years' rigorous imprisonment by a Yankee court in North Carolina.

The profound nature of

The demand for a public enquiry has the support of almost every body of air employees in Bombay: The Liaison Committee representing the All-India Pilots' Guild; the All-India Airline Radio Officers' Association; the AIR-INDIA Ground Engineers' Association and the AIR-INDIA Employees' Union.

That is the demand which Government and Communications Minister Kidwai must accept—order immediately a public enquiry into the running of AIR-INDIA and AIR-INDIA INTERNATIONAL. If this is not done, the widespread discontent among airways employees will threaten the safety and efficiency of air travel and transport.

Girl: Nearly 75 feet.

There was no attempt to molest or even to talk to her, on the girl's own admission. But the real cause—rampant racialism—was apparent in the demand of the prosecutor: "White women must be guarded properly against niggers."

Such is justice in the America of today. Next time the Yanks talk of their profound friendship for coloured India, don't forget the "nigger" who got bumped in for 2 years because he only looked at a white girl.

## More Blood For Vampires

● "YOU MAY BE DRAFTED TO GIVE BLOOD," threatens a recent issue of the Yankee COLLIER'S magazine in banner headlines.

It continues in an inimitable journalistic style:

"If total war comes, with our cities under bombing attack, there is now no alternative to forcing Americans,

slightest hesitation. The poor people and Communism also will benefit thereby.

"IN REGARD TO THE SOLUTION OF THE LAND QUESTION, MY HELP IS AVAILABLE TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS TO SOLVE IT."

"It pains me that you should have to stay underground. I want that all should be able to work with full freedom within certain limits. We will be able to have a full exchange of views if sometime in future an opportunity for a meeting occurs."

(Emphasis ours.—Edi.)

18 to 60, to give a pint at stated times."

The blood of Korea's 3,00,000 murdered children, the blood of 73,604 American casualties in Korea, and now they want the blood of all Americans—ONLY A PINT AT STATED TIMES.

THE THIRST OF THE VAMPIRES IS INDEED UNQUENCHABLE.

## STRAWS IN THE WIND

THE Hammer and Sickle, the Wheel and Plough and the Congress Tricolour lapped each other in the evening breeze on July 15 at Panihati, a Calcutta Suburb, and representatives of four different Central Trade Union Organisations spoke underneath from the same platform on the demands of the workers of the Swadeshi Industries, who have been on strike for the last 80 days.

IN Bombay the formation of a united textile union is bringing in a splendid harvest of unity moves. The workers of the engineering and metal industry organised in different unions have decided to amalgamate into one union. A conference has been called to implement this resolve and also to commence agitation on a joint charter of demands.

At a meeting held recently a representative Preparatory Committee was set up to organise the conference and appointed Vithal Chowdhury, K. N. Joglekar and Wadawkar as Convenors.