

Many Fine India Buildings Said Constructed at Expense of Poor

Editor's note: This is the second of three dispatches in which prominent West Virginia newspaper executive reports on his recent tour of the Far East.

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(Distributed by UPI)

Television viewers should not be misled by the beautiful government buildings in New Delhi. Many of these buildings were built by the British, and those that have been built by the Indian Government are considered by thoughtful persons to have been constructed at the expense of housing for the hundreds of thousands of people a few blocks away in Old Delhi who live in shacks or sleep on the streets.

There are three general groups in India. There are the very very rich whose fortunes equal those of the Mellons, Fords and others in our country. These people almost universally refuse to invest their money in industries that would furnish employment. Rather are their holdings in the form of hidden gold and fabulous gems.

The second group is made up of the distressingly poor. This group constitutes more than 90 per cent of the population and the average income of those fortunate enough to have jobs is less than \$600 per year. India is not a cheap country. In Delhi a three-room apartment in a fair location rents for one hundred and twenty-five American dollars per month so that \$600 annually means a scale of living compared to which our big city slums are palatial.

I saw thousands and thousands of people whose home is the street. They are born there, live there and die there. In Calcutta you can see sidewalks literally covered with men, women, children, goats and cattle sleeping indiscriminately together.

And yet the third group which consists of government officials, continues to build fabulous governmental buildings, including homes and apartment houses for all types of officials from the highest to the lowest.

Apology for Corruption
I talked with many Indians in many walks of life. Without exception, there soon would come an apology for and attempted justification of and corruption that exists in India. It is claimed that the means of existence are so difficult that what might be considered corrupt in this country is legitimate for the Indians. This corruption extends to government officials, tradesmen, merchants and even the beggars on the streets. The only man who is universally exempted in Prime Minister Nehru.

Nehru is considered incorruptible, and is worshipped by the common people despite the fact that Hindi is the prevailing language, and Nehru has great difficulty with his native tongue. I myself saw and heard him grasp for words, and finally substitute English words and entire English sentences. I am told that he goes into provinces where other dialects are universal, and draws vast and enthusiastic audiences although not a single word of his address can be understood.

Considered Indecisive
Many educated Indians consider Nehru vacillating and indecisive, and this opinion is substantiated by many newspaper correspondents. Time after time they have been summoned to press conferences with the implication that some concrete statement would be made upon the Chinese border incidents only to hear the same old platitudes. The same may be said concerning his policy of neutralism. Even in the face of Chinese border aggression, he still draws a distinction between Chinese and Russian communism and insists upon complete neutrality as between Russia and the United States.

All is not harmony politically in India. It is said that Nehru and President Prasad silently have daggers at each other's throats. The President aspires to Nehru's position, and reportedly has the backing of many influential politicians. Only Nehru's popularity with the masses stands in the way. Many persons in position to know feel that this is the reason for his vacillation upon important subjects. They point to the continued representation of India in the United Nations by Krishna

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

THERE'S A COUNTY in the Blue Hills Mountain district where the hillbillies outnumber the townies five to one. Townies, however, control the voting machines and, by invoking their own "literacy test," disqualify every hillbilly who shows up at the polls. One hillbilly confounded them by answering questions about philosophy, world politics, etc.; so in desperation, the registration clerk produced a Chinese newspaper and demanded, "Can you read that headline?" "I can," said the hillbilly. "You can?" echoed the clerk. "What does it say?"



"It says," nodded the hillbilly sadly, "that hillbillies still ain't going to get to vote this year!"

"To prove to you girls how generous my husband is," boasted Mrs. McCloy at the Wednesday crocheting convale, "I gave him twelve neckties for Christmas and he gave every one of them to the Salvation Army!"

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Navy Pressured To Surrender Use of Boardman Range

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune
Washington Correspondent

Washington - The Navy is under pressure from two Oregon congressmen and Gov. Mark Hatfield to give up its use of a bombing range adjacent to the rising John Day dam on the Columbia river so that it can become a valuable industrial site.

The Navy is now studying alternatives to its current use of the Boardman bombing range for target practice for naval aircraft which fly to the area from Whidbey Island Naval Base north of Seattle.

Gov. Hatfield some weeks ago dispatched to Washington the new director of the state planning and development agency, Robert Tarr, and his assistant, Sam Mallicot. They conferred with members of the Oregon congressional delegation, and especially Reps. Al Ullman (D) in whose district the range lies, and Walter Norblad (R).

Ullman and the two state officials went to the Pentagon and the Navy Department for conferences on future use of the 96,000-acre military reservation. Originally, at the outset of World War II, the land was acquired by the Air Force. It was deactivated in 1947, but reactivated in 1948.

Approval Necessary
The Navy is now using it with Air Force permission - but Congress must approve, through its Armed Service committees, a permanent transfer to the Navy. That's where Congressman Norblad enters the picture. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, he is quietly blocking the transfer as part of the governor's strategy to get the Navy to give it up.

Nothing To Offer
India has nothing to offer as an ally of the so-called free nations of the world. She has an army of approximately 150,000, while China is reputed to have five million men under arms. It would certainly be an involvement even more disastrous than Korea if we should place ourselves under obligation to assist India in the defense of her borders.

Upon the other hand, India could have no attraction for China, or for any other aggressor nation. China's problem now is lack of raw materials and over-population. To conquer India would merely aggravate her situation. China's future lies in the north and there by hangs another tale.
(Next: Why Russia fears China.)

Sukarno's Palace Raided by Plane

Jakarta, Indonesia - (UPI) - An Indonesian Air Force MIG17 jet plane strafed President Sukarno's downtown Merdeka Palace today. Sukarno was not injured.

The official Radio Indonesia said in a broadcast that a palace guard and a painter were the only casualties. The guard was hit in the shoulder by bullets. The painter was reported to have fallen off a ladder.

Neither Sukarno nor any of his five children was hurt by the flying bullets from the Soviet-built jet.

The broadcast said the attack came while Sukarno was presiding over a Supreme Advisory Council meeting in a building next to the main palace structure when the plane made its swoop at 8:50 p.m. (p.s.t.) Tuesday.

Couple Rescued From Wrecked Auto

Gold Beach - (UPI) - A man and a woman were in good condition in Curry General hospital today after being rescued from an automobile accident south of here Tuesday.

The woman was identified as Donna Marie Handy, 35, Albany. Hospital attendants said the man was identified as Michael Gene Pearson, about 20, a Navy man from Albany. They were rescued by state police after their car went off the Coast highway about 25 miles south of here. They were spotted by a passing motorist who notified authorities.

Plans Announced For Late Filings

Salem - (UPI) - Plans were announced Tuesday for handling the last-minute rush of political filings this Friday.

Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. said a large hearing room on the basement floor of the capitol, room 6, will be converted into a temporary office of the State Elections Division.

March 11, 5 p.m. is the deadline for all state, county and district filings.

Appling said an added service to candidates will be a headquarters room for each political party.

State Conservation Council Considered

Salem - (UPI) - The governor's committee on natural resources voted Tuesday to look into possible creation of a State Conservation Council.

Recommendation for such a council came from the Oregon Red Hat Days committee which voted in Portland last month to discontinue its program and disband.

A state conservation council would operate year-round to encourage "good outdoor manners." The Red Hat days program is aimed primarily at hunters.

It was suggested the council be comprised of outdoor and land-use interests and others.

The committee restated its desire for creation of a fish and wildlife sanctuary on the Salmon river. An amended bill is now before Congress which would prohibit licensing of any dams on the Salmon until such time as the fish passage problem is solved.

The Neuberger press release, the senator's office explained, was based on a Jan. 12 letter from the Navy. The negotiations on which the current hope of the state is based were entered into after that Jan. 12 letter was written, according to Congressman Ullman, who said he has been in constant touch with the matter.



ROSTRUM YIELDED—Sen. Robert F. Byrd (D-W.Va.) yielded the Senate rostrum to Vice President Richard Nixon at noon Tuesday, after presiding over the Senate for a record 21 hours and 8 minutes, during the civil rights filibuster. Byrd is shown stretching after his long session in the chair. —(UPI Telephoto)

Overflow House at Footlighters Play First Performance

If first nights are any indication, Medford Footlighters are becoming more and more of a factor in the community's cultural and entertainment circles. A few years ago first night audiences for a Footlighter play were apt to be hardly large enough to fill two or three rows in the little theater at the Fairgrounds.

Last night the group's current production, "Picnic," opened to an overflow house and the evening brought forth such incidents as spontaneous applause for two well-played scenes and bouquets for two of the actresses at curtain fall.

One of the spontaneous applause bursts came at the close of a scene between Charlene Tarvin and Frank Buchter, and it was well deserved. Mrs. Tarvin, playing the spinster school teacher who is driven to begging her long-time "boy friend" to marry her, and Mr. Buchter, the reluctant bridegroom, both gave splendid performances last evening.

Second Outburst
The second outburst of applause was for Bill Gregory and Peggy Lewellyn, cast as the romantic leads in the drama. Young Gregory's broad-shoulders and deep voice complement his playing of Hal Carter, the man whose bragging and boasting fails to cover the fact that his heritage has been from the wrong side of the tracks. Mrs. Lewellyn brings beauty and sweetness to the role of Madge, "prettiest girl in town" who is beginning to wonder if just being pretty is enough.

"Picnic" is a play which offers substantial roles to a number of characters, and they are well filled for this production. Helen Ashley gives a sympathetic interpretation of the no-longer-young woman tied to her mother's apron strings, and Loretta Ware carries off honors for her playing of the mother who wants desperately that her two daughters shall not taste of the unfulfillment which marked her own marriage.

Linda-Jo Waltermire deserves special mention for two reasons. She stepped into her role when the play was only a couple of weeks short of opening night, and gives a most creditable performance as the younger sister, smarter but suffering from a complex because of her older sister's beauty and popularity with the boys. Playwright William Inge, known for his keenly delineated characters, has turned out an especially genuine picture of the typical squabbling sisters, each believing

the other to be the more fortunate.

In "Picnic" Laurence Ware chalks up another good score for Footlighters. This amateur actor can be depended upon for an intelligent and relaxed playing of the roles assigned to him.

The cast is completed with Jack Adams, Virginia Murphy and Audrey Reiss, all of whom bring sparkle to their small roles. Director Thayer Tarvin has coached his bit actors as carefully and as thoroughly as the leads.

The set for "Picnic" is excellent. The construction crew, Bernard Roberts, Frank Buchter and his wife, Alice, Joe Murphy, Virginia Murphy and Pat Wright, have done an outstanding piece of work in re-creating the backyard and porches of two small-town homes on the Footlighter's tiny stage.

But for one incident, last night might have been one of the most auspicious openings ever enjoyed by Footlighters and the group's audiences. A few patrons who arrived before 8 o'clock, the time advertised by the publicity director and stamped on the tickets, were routed from their seats by latecomers who insisted that two whole rows of seats had been held for them. Those who failed to give up their seats, pointing out that none had been sold as reserved, were considerably embarrassed.

Check at Office
A check at the box office and with Director Tarvin after the show brought to light the information that Footlighters does indeed extend to patrons the courtesy of holding seats, (and the show?) for late arrivals who make the request in advance. This came as a considerable surprise to this reviewer, who has been covering Footlighter stories and writing reviews for a good many years; the only exception we could recall is that seats have sometimes been held for members of the Chin-UP club, physically handicapped persons who well deserve this courtesy. However, if seats are held for late arrivals, this fact should be made known to the general public, and the rows should be marked at both ends.

Director Tarvin apologized last night for the incident and said that curtain time should have been advertised as 8:15 p.m. Last night's curtain time was almost 8:30 p.m.—O.S.

EP Bluebirds Set For Graduation

Eagle Point - The Eagle Point Fourth grade Bluebirds will go flying into the Campfire Girls at the graduation ceremony held in conjunction with the Bluebirds' annual birthday party in the grade school gymnasium tomorrow at 7 p.m. The second and third grade groups of Bluebirds also will participate in the program.

Mrs. Arnold Arenz is leader for the second grade girls and Mrs. Vernon Ragsdale is leader for the third grade girls. Refreshments will be served following the program. Mrs. Chapman said she would like all relatives, parents, and friends of the girls to attend the party and graduation ceremony.

Mrs. Norman Chapman is the leader of the fourth grade girls with Mrs. Willis Morrison assisting. Girls graduating into the campfire group are Karen Arenz, Cheryllyn Bagby, Charlotte Bania, Lynn Beddington, Rhonda Caldwell, Debby Chapman, Kathy Grow, Lynda Harnish, Janice Jorde, Wendy McGraw, Debbie Oakes, Connie Shelton, Norma Stinger, and Mary Ellen Wallace.

Red China Believed Not Testing Bomb

New Delhi - (UPI) - Soviet atomic expert V. S. Emeloyanov said Tuesday night a report that Communist China will explode its first atomic bomb this month is a "fairy tale."

Experts on Communist Chinese affairs in London and Tokyo agreed that there was little possibility the report was true.

Member of parliament Dr. Raghuvia made his claim to the legislature Monday and repeated it in a UPI interview Tuesday. He said the bomb would be exploded at 9 a.m. March 23 in Sinkiang Province.

Emeloyanov, chairman of the Soviet Atomic Energy Utilization Board, commented on the claim at a news conference. Asked if China has produced an atomic bomb, he said: "God knows." But he indicated he himself did not believe it.

Central Point Man Appears in Court

Jerry Vernon Barrett, 27, of 243 Alder st., Central Point, was bound over to the grand jury Monday afternoon in district court on charges of burglary not in a dwelling.

Barrett was allegedly caught by Ray Koch of the Forest Green Detective agency early Sunday morning. State police were called to assist in the man's apprehension at the Central Point area lumber yard. Barrett has been released on bail.

Error Corrected

Eagle Point—In a story appearing on this page Monday, Mark Boyden was incorrectly referred to as county engineer. Boyden is a private land surveyor who is running for county surveyor this year.



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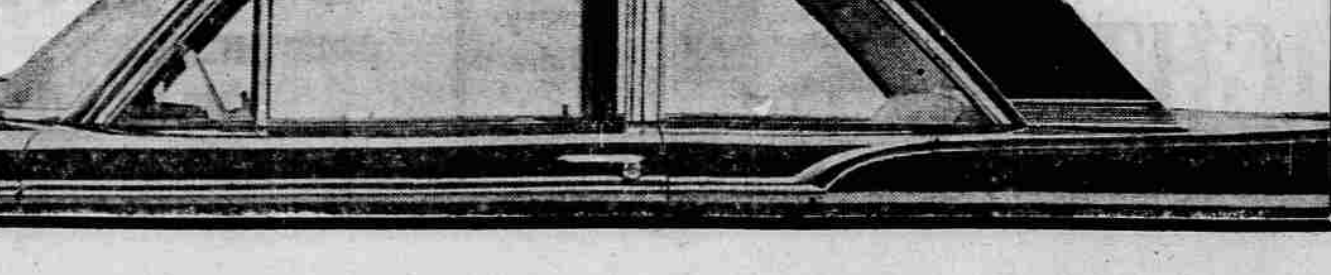
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