

Historic March

Non-cooperation Movement Irresistible Students, Writers, Workers, Artists, Poets —

All One in the Street

IN PROTEST of undemocratically adjourning the elected National Assembly, without following the democratic rule of discussion with the leader of the majority party, the second phase of the non-violent, non-cooperation movement led by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, passed successfully yesterday (Sunday).

With a view to realizing the 4-point demands, declared by Bangabandhu, for the establishment of people's rights and the National Assembly in the changed circumstances, meetings and processions were held by different students, workers, poets, authors, and artists in Dhaka yesterday also.

In these meetings, the Martial Law Regulation No 115, declared by the army authority in Zone-B, was severely criticised and serious oath was taken to continue peacefully the movement for the realization of rights launched by Bangabandhu even in the teeth of provocation.

Yesterday, a procession of press workers struggling to realize rights, arranged by newspaper press workers' federation went to Bangabandhu's residence where the latter made a brief speech.

He exhorted people to carry on the non-violent and non-cooperation movement, maintaining peace and discipline. He added that no success could be gained through anarchy and vindictive measures.

At the end of the rally, the press workers went in procession to Bangabandhu's residence. The chairman of the press workers' federation, Abdul Karim, submitted to Bangabandhu an application on behalf of the press workers.

In this letter of application, he assured that the press workers, under his leadership are ready to sacrifice anything in order to realize their rights. In this letter, he also requested Bangabandhu to form immediately a national gov-

ernment and to declare the sovereign and independent Bengal.

Former student leader Tofael Ahmed also spoke on the occasion. After the conclusion of Bangabandhu's address, the press workers went to the Central Shaheed Minar in procession and there they took oath.

— *The Ittefaq* March 15, 1971

Chattra Union Meet

THE East Pakistan Chattra Union (EPSU — Matiya Group) called on President Yahya Khan to accept Bangabandhu's minimum 4-point demand, at a public rally held at the Baitul Mukarram by yesterday.

Speakers at the meeting demanded that the President should accept at least the 4-point demands declared by Bangabandhu as conditions for attending the National Assembly.

The meeting, chaired by EPSU president Nurul Islam, was addressed by EPSU general secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim among others. After the rally, a huge procession was brought out which marched towards Bahdurshah Park and the Sadarghat area.

— *The Ittefaq* March 15, 1971

TV Dramatists Meeting

IN a meeting held in front of the DIT Building yesterday, television dramatists expressed total solidarity with the movement for rights led by Bangabandhu.

In the evening at the Paltan Maidan, novelists held a session of patriotic songs and dramas. Later a popular drama named "Rakta Lekha", written by M A Gafur, was staged. Sayedul Islam and his friends in the session of public music, Altaf, Sarkar Rajab, Shah Alam,

Dual and others in recitation of poetry, and Mannan, Chhanabha's Alta (Salil), Mantu, Sunil Roy, Samar, Aktar, Bakul, Sangit, Khokan, Khalil, Seema Begum, Shanti Rani and others in the different roles of the drama, took part.

— *The Ittefaq* March 15, 1971

Lekhak Sangram Shibir

AT a meeting chaired by Dr. Ahmed Rafiq at the Bangla Academy yesterday, the

Lekhak Sangram Shibir demanded that a memorial dedicated to the memory of martyrs of the movement be constructed.

It was proposed that the names of the martyrs and the history of the movement should be preserved at the site of the memorial.

Sramik League

JATIYA Sramik League Central Committee and Central Action Committee urged every affiliated associations and labour unions to abide by the following instructions in order to form action committees and volunteer groups:

• A local action committee

Media Flashback

Compiled by Iftexhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Ekram Kabir and Dipak Kumar Karmakar.

consisting of five members, has to be formed in every industry, making the general secretary of every labour union the convener.

• Similarly, local action committee of five members, has to be formed in every industrial area.

• A group of volunteers has to be formed with 25 per cent members of every labour union or industry. These volunteers shall practice parade and have all kinds of trainings regularly.

— *The Ittefaq* March 15, 1971



The Pathan meets the leader of Bengal: Wali Khan (left) being greeted by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at his Dhanmandi Road 32 residence, Mar. 14, 1971.

March 14, 1971

NAP Leader Wali Khan Meets Sheikh Mujib

KHAN ABDUL WALI KHAN who arrived in Dhaka on Saturday evening met Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the latter's Dhanmandi house on Sunday morning.

The talks between the two leaders lasted about one and a half hours. After emerging out of the conference room along with Mujib, Wali Khan replying to questions of the waiting newsmen, said that he has come as a Pakistani. "I do not carry any message or proposal from the President".

Khan Wali Khan told newsmen that Sheikh Mujib and himself knew each other, had worked and suffered together. He also said that he had come to Dhaka to meet the gentleman whom the president had described as the future prime Minister.

Denying that he was carrying any message from Mujib to the President, Wali Khan observed that "they (Sheikh Mujib and President) were capable" of meeting on the same level.

Khan Wali told a questioner that his party had been the first to say that it would participate in the National Assembly. He said that the Assembly was the only proper forum for resolving the constitutional problem.

Mir Khair Bux Bejenjo, a leader of the National Awami Party and Awami League leaders Syed Nazrul Islam and AHM Kamruzzaman were also present during the talks.

Wali Khan is likely to have further talks with Mujib before he returns to West Pakistan.

— *The Pakistan Observer* March 15, 1971

Mujib Ready to Meet Yahya

SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN said on Sunday that struggle would continue till the rights of the people were achieved. He was talking to newsmen at his house after his talks with the President of the National Awami Party (NAP), Khan Abdul Wali Khan.

When a newsman asked him if he would meet President Yahya Khan, Mujib said, "Has he (president) come here?" When the newsman replied in the negative, Mujib said, "How can I meet him then?" The Awami League president, however, stated that he was "ready to meet" the President if he came to Dhaka.

Sheikh Mujib told a foreign correspondent, who had referred to the non-violent non-cooperation movement, that when the people were united, "nobody can suppress them".

— *The Pakistan Observer* March 15, 1971

'Struggle Will Continue'

SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN on Sunday, while announcing a fresh programme of action to be followed from March 15, said: "The heroic struggle of the people marches for ward. All those who cherish freedom and are struggling for it all over the world should regard our cause as their own. Our people have proved how a determined and united people can be a bulwark of freedom against those who conspire to rule by force".

Sheikh Mujib said: "Every man, woman and child in Bangladesh can hold their head high today. They have decisively worsted those who thought they could intimidate them by the naked use of force. The people of Bangladesh in all walks of life — government servants, office and factory workers, peasants and students have demonstrated in no certain terms that they are determined to die rather than surrender.

"It is deplorable that even at this stage some unthinking people are trying to intimidate a section of civilian employees by promulgating Martial Law Orders. Today the entire people are united in their determination not to submit to Martial Law. I, therefore, urge those to whom the latest order has been directed not to yield to the threat that has been lev-



elled against them. The 75 million people of Bangladesh are behind them and their families. The present attempt to intimidate them will, therefore, be as futile as the other recent attempts to browbeat the people of Bangladesh.

"The spirit of freedom in Bangladesh cannot be extinguished. We cannot be conquered, because each of us is determined to die, if need be, to ensure that our future generation can live, in freedom and with dignity, as the free citizens of a free country. Our struggle shall therefore, continue with renewed vigour until our goal of emancipation is realised. I appeal to the people to remain ready for any sacrifice, and should force be unleashed against them to resist it by all means possible.

— *The Pakistan Observer* March 15, 1971

Students Set-up Check-posts

THE INDEPENDENT Bengal Central Students Action Committee (IBCSAC) has decided to set up check-posts in the city from today to stop flight of resources from Bangladesh.

According to a press release of the IBSCAC, there will be six such check-posts for the moment one each at 1) Farm Gate near Hotel Salmar 2) Shaheed Titumeer College formerly Jinnah College 3) College Gate 4) Pak Motors 5) Dhaka Railway Station and 6) Jatrabari.

Regional Action Committees have been directed to set up check-posts in their respective areas.

The Central Action Committee urged the Bengalees in central government services who are now in Bangladesh on leave to remain in their respective areas and not to report to their duties in West Pakistan. The statements urged the Action Committees in various parts of Bangladesh to contact such employees and coordinate their work.

— *The Pakistan Observer* March 15, 1971

Feature Banking and Finance

Penniless Indians Press for Return to Kuwait

by Mohammed Aslam

IN the massive reconstruction following the liberation of Kuwait, Asian states are anxious to acquire a bigger share in the labour market.

Foreign workers who fled or were forced out of Kuwait after August 2 are keen to return to their jobs. Many more are eager to take up employment during the initial surge of economic revival.

In Dubai, expatriates are mingling with Kuwaiti citizens to get the necessary paperwork done at the Kuwaiti consulate.

The Indian subcontinent was the biggest supplier of manpower to Kuwait before the invasion. In India tens of thousands of those evacuated are pressing for permission to return.

The southern Indian state of Kerala, from where skilled and semi-skilled workers have traditionally gone to Gulf states in large numbers, is leading a campaign to persuade New Delhi to let the "crisis returnees" go back now to

Until the invasion, 80 per cent of Kuwait's workforce was foreign. Huge numbers were from the Indian subcontinent. Now they are clamouring to return. But the events of the last months have carried a lesson: in future the Kuwaitis will need to do more for themselves. In anticipation of this, reports Gemini News Service, exiles in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere have been training in technical specialisations. In Kuwait and all over the Gulf labour and industrial policies are likely to undergo drastic changes.

For nearly 150,000 Indians evacuated by air and sea at government expense last year there is a snag. Indian laws prohibit the issue of fresh

passports until a person's debts are cleared.

Those who returned were penniless, so they are asking New Delhi to amend the rules and let them take up their jobs anew and pay later.

The Kuwaiti authorities

caution against a hasty return of employees — even those Kuwaiti nationals living outside their country — until essential services are restored and such dangers as those posed by

landmines are eliminated. The reconstruction will proceed in two stages — short-term rehabilitation and restoration of basic amenities, then long-term schemes to revive the civic and industrial infrastructure of the country.

Advice has gone out that only personnel needed for immediate restoration of medical, water, communication, electricity, sanitation, transport and general clean-up services should try to travel to Kuwait now.

Kuwait is under martial law for three months and government ministers and departments will take some time to return from exile in Saudi Arabia and be functional again. The families of workers may be allowed to come only when essential supplies and services are back to normal.

Labour and industrial policies in almost all Gulf countries, will undergo drastic changes in the light of Kuwait's bitter experience. The Iraqi invasion could prove a catalyst for a sweeping reorientation.

Until recently, up to 80 per cent of some of the oil-rich but manpower-deficient states' employment needs were met by foreigners. Nationals of more than 50 countries have been working in this part of the world.

Top managers and consultants have come from Western countries, mid-level specialists and skilled employees from developing Asian countries, and labourers and unskilled workers from poorer Arab and African states and from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, China and the

Philippines. Nationals of host Gulf states preferred top posts in the private and public sectors or went into business and highly-paid professions.

Despite the spread of education and training at government cost, and despite hectic "job nationalisation" plans, foreigners continued to dominate the labour front.

All this is now likely to change, with Kuwait citizens being asked to perform all kinds of key jobs. Reliance on foreign workers may be reduced as a strategic necessity.

The invasion highlighted the sensitivity of having foreigners, however trustworthy, in crucial communication, banking, oil and investment fields.

Until last August foreigners made up nearly 80 per cent of the prosperous nation's 500,000-strong workforce.

In percentage terms figures for the other oil-rich states such as Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Oman are more or less the same.

Specialised training had already been arranged for young citizens in places where Kuwaiti exiles concentrated over the past seven months. The Kuwaiti consulate in Dubai said training covered 13 technical specialisations, including computer programmers, mechanics, electricians and office workers.

The fact that the Kuwaitis underwent rigorous military training in the Saudi desert and played an active part in the war of liberation is seen as illustrating new awareness among the younger generation and old ones alike.

This may spell disappointment for labour-exporting Asian and Arab countries, but they will continue to meet immediate needs.

For this to be realised, however, Kuwaiti employers have first to return home and resume their business and other operations.

— Gemini News

Redevelopment Progressing In Saxony-Anhalt

by Manfred Neuber

WHERE open-cast lignite mining has left gaping wounds in nature and the chemical industry has caused serious environmental damage, the landscape is to be recultivated in the next few years: dangerous disused dumps are to be removed in an exemplary fashion. The new Bundesland (state) of Saxony-Anhalt intends to turn the former GDR's "devil's workshop" into a modern industrial and commercial region. The Land government in Magdeburg is trying to attract domestic and foreign investors to help realize these plans.

For decades, this region was over-exploited — economically and ecologically — by gigantic bucket excavators. The unprofitable lignite (brown coal) there was the main raw material and source of energy for the socialist command economy.

And the Buna/Leuna and Bitterfeld/Wolfen chemical combines caused the greatest environmental damage in Germany. A free-market redevelopment scheme is now turning this ecologically distressed area into a flourishing region.

A Special National Programme launched by the German Federal Government is to eliminate the extremely high level of pollution of soil, air and water by harmful substances, and the ghostly wasteland of open-cast mines and industrial plant. To this end, a total sum of Dm 17.8 billion has been scheduled in Saxony-Anhalt and the neighbouring lignite region of Saxony.

Additional funds are being made available by the European Community (EC). During a visit to Bitterfeld, Jacques Delors, a president of the EC Commission, declared this "heavily damaged area to be one of the focal points of EC environment policy".

According to the ideas of Werner Munch, prime minister of Saxony-Anhalt, his Land can become a "model" in the next few years for all those who, wherever they may be in the world, have to undertake ecological redevelopment and

need know-how for modern environmental technology.

Consequently, the Bitterfeld/Halle/ Merseburg region should be incorporated in the World Exhibition "Expo 2000" in Hanover as an environmental industrial park.

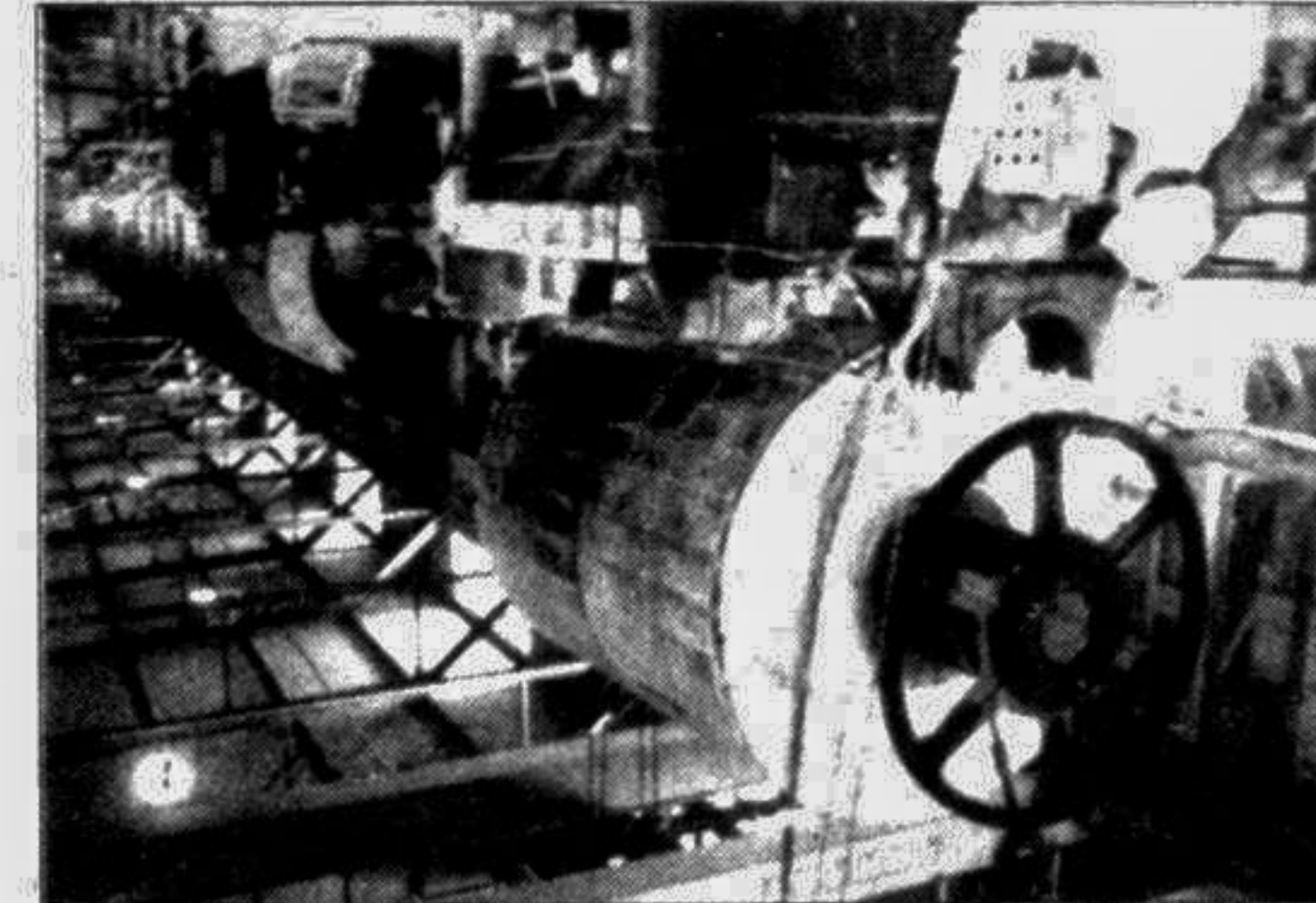
Even now, Munch would like to see the Federal Environment Office transferred to Bitterfeld.

Economics Minister Horst Rehberger can already chalk up the first successes in the privatization of chemical en-

sons, the unemployment level in this region will rocket once more when the zero short-time arrangement expires; after all, almost 50,000 workers were formerly employed in the closed-down chemical combines.

Tens of thousands also had to be dismissed in the lignite and potash mining industries in Saxony-Anhalt.

Generous promotion programmes are to accelerate the rebuilding of the economy in the second-largest industrial region in eastern Germany.



Industry has become obsolete in many parts of Saxony-Anhalt. This rotating filter (photo), which is being dismantled by workers from the east German Leuna Redevelopment Company, dates from the years 1925-30. It caused great environmental damage.

terprises and the establishment of new industries. The following are to set up shop in the Bitterfeld industrial park: Bayer, the west German chemical company, a Turkish magnetic tape manufacturer, a British tape chemical firm, a large German mail-order firm, a paper factory and a Heraeus Elektro Chemie quartz glass factory.

BP and Elf, the two mineral oil companies, are making applications for the refineries in Leuna.

Before these investors, with more than Dm 2 billion, create new jobs for some 3,500 per-

"Saxony-Anhalt's new economic structure will be characterized by a large variety of medium-sized firms, and thus not so crisis-prone," says Rehberger.

So far, 1,300 private enterprise schemes have been promoted with investments of almost Dm 10 billion.

41,000 new jobs are to be thereby created and 27,000 existing ones safeguarded by 1994. 70,000 medium-sized firms have been established since early 1990; they are being joined by an average of 2,500 monthly.

(IN-Press)

Foreigners in the Gulf

Iraq (17.6m)
Egyptian 1m
Palestinian 170,000
Moroccan 30,000
Asian 60,000
Soviet and east European 7,000
Filipino 5,000
British 500
American 580

Jordan (3.8m)
Palestinian 1m

Kuwait (2m)
Asian 500,000
Palestinian 300,000
Filipino 45,000
Thai 7,000
Moroccan 6,000
British 4,000
American 2,500
Soviet and east European 2,300
Japanese 300

