



NEW DELHI DEAF & DUMB CLUB

14TH ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

G S F C
BASIC TO INDIA'S PROGRESS

G

**GUJARAT STATE FERTILIZERS COMPANY LIMITED
FERTILIZERNAGAR DIST. BARODA**

25th JANUARY 1976

With Best Compliments Of :

ESCORTS LIMITED



राष्ट्रपति सचिवालय
PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT,

राष्ट्रपति भवन,
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN,
नई दिल्ली-110004
NEW DELHI-110004.

December 1, 1975.

The President is glad to know from your letter of the 29th November, 1975 that the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club will celebrate its 14th Annual Day on the 18th January, 1976. He sends his best wishes for the success of the celebrations and hopes that the Club will continue to work with added zeal and dedication to mitigate the sufferings of the Deaf and Dumb.

Yours faithfully,

(K. R. Gupta)

Additional Private Secretary
to the President



भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति के सचिव
नई दिल्ली

SECRETARY
TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

December 19, 1975

The Vice-President is glad to know that you are going to hold the 14th Annual Day on January 18, 1976. He sends his best wishes for its success.

Yours faithfully,

(V. Phadke)



प्रधानमंत्री सचिवालय

नई दिल्ली-११००११

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI-110011

December 6, 1975.

Madam.

The Prime Minister thanks you for your letter. She sends her good wishes for the success of the fourteenth annual day of the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club, which is being celebrated this month.

Yours faithfully,

(H. Y. Sharada Prasad)

Shrimati Premalabai Chavan, M.P.
C II/47 Shahjahan Road,
New Delhi-110011

GOVERNOR, TAMILNADU



RAJ BHAVAN
Madras-600 022
December 19, 1975

I am glad to know that the New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club is proposing to celebrate its 14th Annual Day on 18th January, 1976. I wish the function every success.

(K. K. Shah)



GOVERNOR, ORISSA



RAJ BHAVAN
BHUBANESWAR
December 20, 1975

Dear Shri Ramesh C. Tuli,

I received your letter of 17th December intimating to me that you are celebrating the annual day of the New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club on 18th January, 1976. I very much appreciate the work to help our deaf and dumb children you and your colleagues are doing to make their life a little happy. I offer my thanks to all of you for this humanitarian work and wish the function every success. I trust, your Club will be able to do much more to help the deaf & dumb as well as other disabled handicapped boys and girls.

I am also having a School of Deaf and Dumb and Blind at Bhubaneswar separately. I am feeling difficulty in getting trained teachers for both these schools. I will be thankful if you could send me some suggestions in this matter as well as some details about your activities so that we may also be benefitted from your experience.

With best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,

(Akbar Ali Khan)

Shri Ramesh C. Tuli,
Hony. Secretary,
New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club,
15-U.A., Jawahar Nagar, Delhi-110007.

GOVERNOR, PUNJAB



RAJ BHAVAN, PUNJAB

CHANDIGARH.

December 24, 1975

I am glad to know that the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club are holding their 14th annual day on the 18th January, 1976 and bringing out a souvenir on this occasion.

I have much pleasure in commending the humanitarian activities of the Club and send my best wishes for the success of function.

(M. M. Chaudhury)



CHIEF MINISTER, HARYANA,

CHANDIGARH

सन्देश

मुझे यह जानकर अत्यन्त प्रसन्नता हुई कि बहरों और गूंगों के लिये नई दिल्ली में स्थापित क्लब ने सेवा के १४ वर्ष पूरे कर लिये हैं।

समाज के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिये यह बहुत ज़रूरी है कि बहरों और गूंगों के उत्थान के लिये समुचित ध्यान दिया जाए। समाज के इस वर्ग की किसी भी तरह उपेक्षा नहीं की जा सकती। इन्हें शिक्षा तथा रोज़गार के अवसर प्रदान कर राष्ट्रीय विकास में सहयोग देने की प्रेरणा देनी चाहिये। इस के लिये समाज-सेवी संस्थानों को आगे आना चाहिए।

मुझे आशा है कि आप की संस्था आने वाले समय में और उत्साह से काम करेगी। मैं स्मारिका के सफल प्रकाशन की कामना करता हूँ।

(बनारसो दास गुप्त)



उप-राज्यपाल
राज निवास
दिल्ली
December 23, 75

I am glad to know that the New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club is celebrating its 14th Annual Day.

The Club has been performing useful service for the rehabilitation of the handicapped so as to make them useful members of the society.

I wish the celebrations all success.

(Krishan Chand)



अध्यक्ष
महानगर परिषद
CHAIRMAN
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
DELHI
December 22, 1975

My dear Tuli Saheb,

I am grateful to you for your letter No. 589/75, dated the 17th December, 1975.

It is really heartening to note that New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club has successfully completed 14 years selfless service to the Capital's deaf & dumb. I am sure, the Club will continue to render useful service to the Deaf & Dumb.

I am also glad to know that the Club are holding its 14th Annual Day on January 18, 1976.

I wish all success for this venture.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Mir Mushtaq Ahmad)

Shri Ramesh C. Tuli,
Hony. Secretary,
New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club,
15-U.A., Jawahar Nagar, Delhi-7.

मुख्य मंत्री,
बिहार



P A T N A
December, 1975

I send my greetings to the New Delhi Deaf & Dumb Club on the occasion of their 14th Annual Day. I appreciate the efforts made by the Club towards bringing cheer and hope in the life of our handicapped brothers and making their life worth-living. I hope their activities will expand in the days to come and they would be able to serve a worthy cause in a befitting way.

(Jagannath Mishra)



GOVERNOR



RAJ BHAVAN,
GANGTOK.
20th December, 1975

I am glad that the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club has successfully completed 14 years of self-less work in the service of the handicapped people in the Delhi Area. At the occasion of their 14th Annual Day on January 18, 1976, I send them my felicitations for good work done and my best wishes for their success in this laudable work in future.

(B. B. LAL)

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Viewed in the context of the progress made by the normal people during the post-independence era, the progress made in educating, training and rehabilitating the deaf and dumb appears negligible. This is the direct result of the apathy of the deaf and dumb themselves who have, because of various factors, not been able to derive maximum benefit from various schemes launched for their welfare by the Central as also State Governments.

The biggest stumbling block has been dis-unity. Divided as the deaf and dumb are, they can neither look after their interests, obtain concessions from the Government nor collectively strive for a better tomorrow. The division in their rank and file has further



Dr. Surya Parkash Puri

frittered away their energies. The second biggest handicap is the absence of any authentic data about the deaf. Incidences of deafness, age group, social status, educational standards, employment opportunities are some of the vital statistics that have to be available before proper planning for education, treatment, training or rehabilitation can be made. This work can best be done by voluntary organisations of the deaf. Unfortunately there is absolutely no co-operation between various organisations of the deaf, which makes the task of even willing social workers difficult. My suggestion is that the Club undertake sample survey in selected areas

Since ours is only a Club, the emphasis so far has been on recreation activities as to enliven the dull life of these people. Of course, other activities were not altogether ignored. It was our way of thinking that we should restrict our activities to recreation, leaving weightier affairs relating to deaf to other welfare organisations in the field. However, having waited patiently for long 14 years for others to act and having drawn a complete blank, we are now left with no alternative except to enlarge and expand the scope of our activities for which we are now taking appropriate action by amending our Memorandum of Association, also Aims and Objects. Our next Anniversary, I am confident will be celebrated in our enlarged and expanded form.

We are particularly grateful to our Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who has especially drawn her famous 20 Point Programme for the uplift of the weaker section of the society. Since the physically handicapped are included in the weaker section, the 20 Point Programme will undoubtedly help them the most. A concentrated effort is now to be made to derive maximum benefit for the deaf from these revolutionary measures. I appeal to all, to make this historic declaration a complete success.

Since our Secretary would have discussed all the future plans in details in his report, I confine myself with thanking all the Members, and Office bearers who have worked devotedly, selflessly and sincerely to further strengthen the Club and make it a really useful organisation. I am happy to place on record that the Co-operative venture that the Club helped start, the Badhir Co-operative Industrial (Production) Society Limited is efficiently running a Printing Press which is entirely manned and managed by our Members. It is my sincere hope that this Co-operative venture will progress and prosper in the days ahead.

कार्यकारी अध्यक्षा की ओर से

एक वर्ष आया और गया। कुछ उपलब्धियां प्राप्त हुई तो कुछ अनउपलब्धियां भी पल्ले पड़ी। यह तो होता ही है फिर भी गत वर्ष की गतिविधियों को संतोषजनक ही माना जा सकता है। गत वर्ष को सबसे बड़ी उपलब्धी है हमारी प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी का क्रान्तिकारी २० सूत्री कार्य-क्रम जिसमें न केवल अपंगों और अगाहियों का ही हित निहित है अपितु सम्पूर्ण कमजोर व पिछड़े वर्ग की समृद्धि और उत्थान का मूल मंत्र भी विद्यमान है। अतः हमारा यह सतत प्रयास होगा कि प्रधान मंत्री का यह क्रान्तिकारी कार्य-क्रम सफल हो। इसी में देश का और जनता का हित है।



श्रीमति पी० चव्हाण
संसद सदस्य

क्लब के पिछले साल के कार्य का सिंहावलोकन करने पर यही देखा जा सकता है कि क्लब ने अपनी नाना प्रकार की गतिविधियां निर्बाध रूप से जारी रखी। यह संतोष की बात है। वैसे मेरी व्यक्तिगत इच्छा तो यह थी कि क्लब का कार्य क्षेत्र बढ़ाया जाय और नई-नई

गतिविधियां प्रारम्भ की जाए। चाहते हुए भी मुझे जितना समय क्लब को देना था मैं न दे सकी अतः कुछ अंशों में यथा स्थिति के लिए मेरा ही उत्तर दायित्व है।

मुझे वस्तुतः यह जानकर अत्यन्त हर्ष है कि क्लब द्वारा प्रेरित मूक-बधिरों का एक सहकारी संगठन, बधिर कोआपरेटिव इन्डस्ट्रियल (प्रोडक्सन) सोसायटी लिमिटेड बड़े संतोष जनक ढंग से कार्य कर रहा है। इसकी सफलता से बधिर जगत में स्वावलम्ब की भावना बलवती हो यही मेरी हार्दिक कामना है।

बहरे गूँगों की शिक्षा, प्रशिक्षण और पुर्नवास के लिए सरकार ने भी बहुत कुछ किया है। जगह-२ बहरे गूँगों के लिए स्कूल खुल गये हैं, शिक्षा का स्तर ऊँचा हो रहा है—प्रशिक्षण की सुविधाएँ अधिकाधिक जुटाई जा रही है और पुर्नवास के लिए पृथक रोजगार कार्यालय खोल दिये गये हैं तथा राजकीय सेवाओं में भी जगह देने की व्यवस्था कर दी गई है।

जहाँ सरकार ने इतना कुछ किया है वहाँ अपने बहरे गूँगे भाई-बहन अपना उत्तरदायित्व पूरी तरह से नहीं निभा पाये हैं। यह एक दुःख की बात है। सब से बड़ी दुःख देने वाली बात यह है कि मूक-बधिरों में एकता का नितान्त अभाव है। अपनी-अपनी ढफली अपना-२ राग और चाहे जहाँ भले ही शोभा दे—समाज-कल्याण के क्षेत्र में शोभनीय नहीं। मेरी हार्दिक इच्छा है कि मूक-बधिरों में एकता स्थापित हो। मैं इसके लिए प्रयत्नशील भी हूँ। अगर एकता इतनी शीघ्र स्थापित न हो सके तो गतिविधियों में सामंजस्य तो होना ही चाहिए।

महिलाओं के इस अन्तराष्ट्रीय वर्ष में भी महिलाओं के लिये क्लब ने कोई उल्लेखनीय कार्य नहीं किया। मैं इस से क्षुब्ध हूँ। मेरी हार्दिक इच्छा थी कि क्लब का महिला विभाग इस वर्ष न केवल स्थापित हो हो पर सुदृढ़ भी बन जाए। मुझे बताया गया है कि उचित स्थान का अभाव ही इसका मूल कारण है। जो हो यह काम अब क्लब को अपने हाथों में लेना ही चाहिए।

मेरी हार्दिक इच्छा है कि क्लब अपने कार्य क्षेत्र का विस्तार करके प्रशिक्षण और पुर्नवास की समस्या सुलझाने में भी सक्रिय हो। इसके लिए निसंदेह अतिरिक्त साधन चाहिए पर जहाँ चाह वहाँ राह अतिरिक्त साधन भी उपलब्ध हो जायेंगे।

Towards

A

Better

Future



S. Mohinder Singh Gill, M.P.

Problems of the deaf being peculiar to them any lasting solution can not be found unless and until the voluntary organisations engaged in the field are closely associated with such efforts. Multiplicity in such welfare organisations has made it difficult for the Government to enlist the active support of all engaged in this field. The Club realising this basic obstacle in the path of progress had initiated various unity efforts. I am, however, informed that all these efforts have proved futile. This is a pity indeed as it is a set-back with far reaching implications.

Unity has been justly called strength. I am, therefore, not able to fully appreciate as as to why the well meaning efforts of our Club have proved abortive. I hope better counsel will prevail and the unity among these people having same aims and objectives will be achieved.

I am afraid, I have not been of much help to the Club. This is mainly because my duties as a Member of Lok Sabha keep me mostly out of station while the activities of the Club are confined to the capital. I will endeavour to serve these people more effectively in future.

The Club is doing a good job even though its activities are restricted to that of recreation. It has one of the best cricket teams in the capital. Properly coached, this can earn laurels. The proficiency of these people at various games and sports is undoubted. If proper facilities including ground can be provided, my Club can produce some of the outstanding athletes and sportsmen and also establish their supremacy in various games. They can distinguish themselves in various competitions meant for normal people. Some concret steps in this direction, therefore, need be taken.

During the year just ended many schemes mooted for the welfare of our Members could not be implemented for want of funds. However, the only scheme that was implemented, proved a resounding success. I am, of course, referring to the Badhir Co-operative Industrial (Production) Society Limited, a Co-operative venture of our members which is successfully running a printing press. If it can be patronised by a few more regular clients, it can easily expand and enlarge its activities and thus provide more gainful employment opportunities for the deaf, through self-help.

This press of our own will now really help us to implement our long pending schemes of bringing out the bi-monthly papers in English and Hindi. I look forward to see these papers take shape at not a distant date.

It is a matter of gratification to be associated with an organisation where all are active and energetic and where they can do their own work without step by step guidance. This spirit of self-help, self-reliance and self-dependence is to be commended.

I wish the Club a better future and its Members a happy life.

Adviser's Advice

"Inculcate Spirit of Sportsman-Ship"



Shri K. K. Mehra

I consider it my good fortune to have been associated with the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club for a number of years now. During this period, the Club has recorded handsome growth. However, much remains to be done. I am sure, given the opportunity and resources, the Club can certainly accomplish its allotted task.

I am particularly impressed by the rich material I find among these people for good cricketers. Since I have been associated with this game for long, I can say this with some authority. The Delhi and District Cricket Association has also extended its support by providing facilities for playing but I am sorry that the Members of the Club are not fully availing of these facilities. If they practise regularly and take their task in all seriousness, I am sure, they can produce among them excellent cricketers.

An effort to train these people in other games and sports is also needed so that the rich talent that lies hidden in their rank and file can be spotted and brought to light.

In other fields of recreation, these people can also come to the fore. The only trouble is that they lack proper facilities, particularly ground and a place where they can assemble regularly and try their hands at various indoor and out-door games.

I do hope, the year 1976 will at least solve their long felt need for proper accommodation. It may be that some part would do what ever possible in this respect.



अवैतनिक सचिव

का आवेदन



श्री रमेश चन्द्र तुली

LD

अनेकानेक कारणों से हमारा वार्षिक दिवस इस वर्ष विलम्ब से सम्पन्न हो रहा है। परिस्थितियां ही ऐसी थी। अतः मुझे आशा है कि आप लोग इस विलम्ब को क्षमा करेंगे विशेष तौर से इसलिए कि वार्षिक दिवस चाहे हम विलम्ब से ही मना रहे हों हमने अपनी सामान्य गतिविधियों में गतिरोध उत्पन्न नहीं होने दिया।

क्षमायाचना के अनन्तर आप सब के प्रति मैं अपनी स्वयं की और संस्था के सब सदस्यों की ओर से कृतज्ञता प्रकट करता हूँ कि आप सज्जनों ने हमारे अनुरोध पर यहां उपस्थित हो हम पर अपना अनुग्रह व अनुकम्पा प्रदर्शित की है। श्रद्धेय बली राम जी भगत तो हमारे जाने माने संरक्षक हैं व हमारी नाना गतिविधियों में भाग लेते आए हैं। हमें बड़ी प्रसन्नता है कि इनकी योग्यता का अब सही मूल्यांकन किया गया है और इनको लोक सभा का अध्यक्ष चुना गया है। संसदीय प्रणाली के आप महान ज्ञाता हैं ही अतः यह पद आपके लिए उपयुक्त ही है। हम सदा के लिए आपकी मंगल कामना करते हैं।

प्रोफेसर सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद जी एक जाने माने विचारक और विद्वान हैं। आप हमारे एक समारोह की इससे पूर्व भी अध्यक्षता कर चुके हैं। आपने दुबारा हमारा निमंत्रण स्वीकार कर हमें गौरवित्त किया है।

उपस्थित सज्जनों का सानिध्य ही हमारा संम्बल है। आप सब के सहारे ही हम अपनी अनेकानेक गतिविधियों का सफल रूप से संचालन करते आ रहे हैं। आप सब की यहां उपस्थिति जहां आपके स्नेह का प्रतीक है वहां हमारे लिए प्रेरणा का मूल स्रोत भी है। अतः मैं आप सब का हार्दिक स्वागत करता हूँ और कृपा के लिए आभार प्रकट करता हूँ।

अब मैं संक्षेप में पिछले वर्ष के कार्य कल्पों की जानकारी दे दूँ। मुझे यह कहते हुए संकोच होता है कि हम लोगों ने पिछले वर्ष कोई विशेष उल्लेखनीय प्रगति नहीं की। पर यही सत्य है।

आप कहीं यह न समझ बैठें कि हम वर्ष भर अकर्मण्य बने बैठे रहे। सत्य तो यह है कि हमारा नियमित कार्य-क्रम निर्बाध रूप से चलता रहा है। छुट्टियां के दिनों हम खेल-कूदों का नियमित

आयोजन करते रहे हैं और मुझे यह बताते गर्व होता है कि हमारी क्रिकेट टीम की समता बहू गूँगों की किसी संस्था की टीम नहीं कर सकती है। वाचनालय और पुस्तकालय की सुविधाएँ भी हम अपने सदस्यों को प्रदान करते रहे हैं। विशेष अवसरों पर मंगल मिलन और भ्रमण तथा वन्य-भोजों का आयोजन भी किया गया। अन्य गतिविधियाँ भी न्यूनाधिक चलती रही।

अतः जब मैं यह कहता हूँ कि हमने कोई विशेष उपलब्धि हासिल नहीं की तो मेरा अभिप्राय यह है कि हमने अपनी पूर्व परम्परा के अनुरूप हर वर्ष कुछ न कुछ नया आयोजन नहीं किया। पूर्व वर्षों में हम काश्मीर, हिमाचल प्रदेश आदि में ग्रीष्मावकाश में शिविर लगा आये थे व अन्य राज्यों का शिक्षा भ्रमण भी कर आये थे। इसी संदर्भ में इस वर्ष नेपाल जाने का कार्यक्रम था पर वह किन्हीं परिस्थितियों वश संभव न हो सका।

इसी तरह हम अपना प्रशिक्षण तथा उत्पादन केन्द्र जिसका श्रद्धेय भगत जी ने उद्घाटन किया था को पुनः प्रारम्भ न कर सके। मैं यहाँ यह बता दूँ कि इस आवासन पर कि ६८, अशोक रोड, का आवास क्लब के नाम से नियमित कर दिया जायेगा, हमने प्रशिक्षण तथा उत्पादन केन्द्र वहाँ खोल दिया था। इसे भली प्रकार आवश्यक उपकरणों से सुसज्जित भी कर रखा था। पर वहाँ से बेदखल हो जाने के बाद, सारे उपकरण हमें समेट कर रखने पड़े। हमारे सतत प्रयत्न करने पर भी हम कोई ऐसी जगह प्राप्त नहीं कर पाये जहाँ कि हम अपना केन्द्र पुनः शुरु कर सकें।

चूँकि हमारे साधन सीमित हैं अतः मंहगे किराये के आवास प्राप्त करना हमारे वश से बाहर है। फिर जगह भी वहाँ चाहिए जहाँ हमारे साधन विहीन सदस्य आसानी से पहुँच सकें। ऐसा संयोग सस्तेपन और सुगमता का अब तक प्राप्त नहीं हो सका अतः हजारों रुपये व्यय कर जो उपकरण जुटाए गये हैं सब यों ही पड़े पड़े उस सुदिन की राह देख रहे हैं जब कि उनका सदुपयोग मूक-बधिरों के प्रशिक्षण और जीविकाथं किया जा सकेगा।

हालांकि हम अपने इस प्रयास में सफल नहीं हो सके परन्तु एक दूसरे क्षेत्र में हमने पर्याप्त सफलता प्राप्त की है। क्लब की प्रेरण से एक मूक-बधिरों की सहकारी समिति स्थापित की गई थी जो अब बड़ी सफलता पूर्वक एक छपाई के कारखाने (प्रिंटिंग प्रेस) का संचालन कर रही है। यह एक परीक्षात्मक प्रयोग था। स्वभावतः ही छोटे रूप से काम प्रारम्भ किया गया था और मात्र इने गिने मूक-बधिरों को ही वहाँ काम दिया जा सका। अब हमारा प्रयास है कि हम इस प्रेस को और अधिक बढ़ाएं। हमारे पास साधन भी हैं। आवश्यकता पर्याप्त काम की है। हम कोई विशेष रियायत नहीं चाहते हैं। हम तो चाहते हैं कि बाजार दर से ही सही हमें पर्याप्त काम मिलता रहे जिससे कि अधिक से अधिक मूक-बधिरों को हम प्रेस में जगह दे सकें। श्रद्धेय भगत जी व प्रोफेसर साहब इस दिशा में यदि हमारी सहायता कर सकें तो हम उनके सदा सदा के लिये ऋणी होंगे।

पिछले वर्ष का सिंहावलोकन करने पर अन्य कोई ऐसी बात नहीं दिखाई देती जिसका मैं सगर्व उल्लेख कर सकूँ। इस कमी को अब भविष्य के लिये निर्धारित कार्यक्रम के बारे में जानकारी देकर पूरी करने की चेष्टा करूँगा।

हालांकि हमारी गतिविधियाँ समाज कल्याण के सारे कार्यों को सम्पादित करने वाली है फिर भी हमारे नाम से प्रायः ऐसा भ्रम हो जाता है कि केवल मनोरंजन तक ही हमारी गतिविधियाँ सीमित है।

चूँकि यह भ्रांति नाम के कारण होती है अतः हम सब ने यह तय किया है संस्था का पुनः नामकरण हो तथा यदि आवश्यक समझा जाय तो संविधान में भी उचित परिवर्तन कर दिया जाय।

इस वर्ष के कार्य कलापों में प्राथमिकता द्वैमासिक पत्रिकाएँ 'भारतीय बधिर', एवम् Indian Deaf के प्रकाशन को हैं। इस हेतु इस वर्ष एक अलग खाता खोल दिया जायेगा और आशा है कि आप सज्जनों के आशीर्वाद से वे न केवल मूर्त्त रूप हो ले लेंगी अपितु मूक-बाधिर समाज के मार्ग दर्शन में भी उल्लेखनीय कार्य कर सकेंगी। हमें आशीर्वाद दीजिये कि हम अपने प्रयास में सफल हों।

प्रशिक्षण एवं उत्पादन केन्द्र हेतु क्रय किये गये उपकरण साल भर से पड़े हैं—बेकार। हमारा प्रयास होगा कि इनका सदुपयोग येन-केन-प्रकारेण करें ही। आवास की समस्या अवश्य ही जटिल है पर हमें विश्वास है कि आप सज्जनों के आशीर्वाद से यह समस्या भी सुलभ ही जायेगी। हमारी योजना है कि प्रारम्भ में ६ प्रशिक्षार्थी रखे जाय। उत्पादन का कार्य द्वितीय चरण में हाथ में लें। हमारे पास सभी उपकरण और साधन हैं, मात्र जगह चाहिये।

हमारी कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष श्रीमती चव्हाण जो हमारी संस्था के लिये सतत प्रयत्नशील रहती हैं, की इच्छा है कि क्लब के नव विकसित रूप में एक महिला विभाग भी हों। यह ठीक भी है क्योंकि युवा व पुरुष बधिर तो येन-केन-प्रकारेण निर्वाह कर सकते हैं, बधिर बालिकाओं और युवतियों की समस्या जटिल है। चूँकि हमें अपने सीमित सदस्यों की उपयुक्त सेवा कर सकने योग्य भी स्थान नहीं मिल रहा है अतः हम यह अतिरिक्त उत्तरदायित्व लेने से भिन्नक रहे थे। अब हम अपनी अध्यक्ष जी के आदेश का पालन करेंगे और एक महिला विभाग भी शुरू कर देंगे।

अपनी पूर्व परिपाटी को पुनर्जीवित करते हुए पुनः अवकाश शिविर या शिक्षण-भ्रमण का आयोजन करने को भी हम कृत संकल्प हैं। इससे न केवल सदस्यों का मनोरंजन होता है अपितु बौद्धिक विकास भी। जो बात वे पढ़ कर भी नहीं समझ पाते आंखों देख कर सहज ही समझ लेते हैं।

हमारी यह भी योजना है कि हम एक उच्चस्तर की क्रिकेट टीम का चयन करें। उसे पूरी तरह प्रशिक्षित कर फिर भारत के विभिन्न भागों में प्रदर्शनी मैचों का आयोजन करें।

हमने देखा है कि विकलांगों के रोजगार कार्यालयों में मूक-बधिरों के साथ प्रायः न्याय नहीं हो पाता है क्योंकि वहाँ के अधिकारी मूक-बधिरों की 'भाषा' नहीं जानते हैं। अतः हम अपने सदस्यों को रोजगार जुटाने में भी सहायक हो सकें—ऐसा हमारा प्रयास होगा।

दीर्घ कालीन योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत हम दिल्ली में अपने कार्यालय, आवास, खेल मैदान आदि की व्यवस्था करने को प्रमुखता देते हैं। इस हेतु दिल्ली प्रशासन व दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण से हम रियायती दर पर भूमि प्राप्त करने की चेष्टा करेंगे।

हमारे कई सदस्यों ने अपना अपना कार्य शुरू करने की इच्छा प्रकट की है परन्तु अर्थाभाव से यह संभव प्रतीत नहीं होता। हम चेष्टा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीयकरण किये हुए बैंक मूक-बधिरों को रियायती दरों पर ऋण दें।

और अन्त में मैं यह भी उल्लेख कर देना समीचीन समझता हूँ कि हमारे क्लब का एक ध्येय है—समान कर्मी, समान उद्देश्यों वाली संस्थाओं का एकीकरण हम इस दिशा में निरन्तर प्रयत्नशील रहे हैं। यह दूसरी बात है कि हमें आज तक कोई विशेष सफलता इस दिशा में नहीं मिली—फिर भी हम निराश नहीं हैं और अपना प्रयास जारी रखेंगे।

मैं एक बार पुनः देवियों और सज्जनों, आपके पधारने के लिए, हमें उत्साहित करने के लिए साधुवाद देता हूँ।

LISTENING TO SILENCE

A small child is not disturbed by loud noise—no, not even by Diwali crackers. He fails to respond to anything behind him. Language does not develop and it slowly dawns on the parents that the child may be deaf.

In such a case, it is best to eliminate all causes which result in an impediment to speech development: mental disturbance and neurological damage are some of the reasons which could cause such an impediment. The All India Institute of Medical Sciences is a good place to visit in case the child is tardy in speaking. He may be partially deaf in which case, a hearing aid works wonders. In case he is profoundly deaf, the earlier speech training starts the better.

Speech training begins when you teach a child to watch the lips. The mother should talk slowly and distinctly to the child pointing out objects mentioned in her speech to him so that child begins to associate objects with lip movements. Later, the child can join the Lady Noyce School for the Deaf in Delhi (near Feroze Shah Kotla grounds). There is a bus service which picks up children and drops them back to their homes. He can study in this school till the eighth class—a deaf child takes twice as long as an ordinary child to learn the same syllabus. The Lady Noyce School also teaches crafts like carpentry, tailoring, weaving, drawing and painting.

There are two training-cum-production centres set up by the Delhi Administration where handicapped deaf people can receive craft training.

From 9th class onwards, a deaf child can apply for a scholarship which varies from Rs. 40 to Rs 100. A deaf youth can get a scholarship for Rs. 100 if he is placed as an apprentice in an industry.

There is a special Employment Exchange in Delhi where deaf people can seek work. Quite a number of deaf people have found employment in local industries.

Hyderabad is another important centre for the rehabilitation of the deaf. There is a primary school for partially deaf children in Hyderabad as well as a training centre for the adult. Deaf people are taught sheet metal work, wiremanship, carpentry, and fittings. General education is also given.

The Government of India gives grants upto 90% to voluntary organisations of the deaf for development activities. It pays 80% of the expenditure on the teachers training college in Lucknow, which trains twenty teachers for the deaf annually.

The All India Deaf and Dumb Society is planning to start a nursery school in Delhi. The All India Federation of the Deaf is setting up a multi-purpose training centre for the deaf. They already have a printing press and a school for photography for the deaf. They will be starting a course in fashion designing and electronics.

The school for the partially deaf will be a part of National Institute for the Deaf set up by the Government. There will be a special department for research and teachers training and a unit for children who suffer from neurological damage resulting in speech and language problems.

There is hope for the deaf,

Psychological And Environmental Constraints In Solution Of Problems Of Deaf And Dumb



By B. N. Kaul

THERE have been exhaustive and useful discussions on the problems of deaf and dumb in various seminars and other forums which provided not only some authoritative back-ground of the all absorbing subject but also such relevant data as is available, also some practical conclusions on the possible solutions of these problems. Some of these solutions and related proposals have been implemented and these have realised some conducive results. But I must say that despite progress achieved here and there, the basic problems of the deaf still remain, as complex as these were, and conditions of this large class of the physically handicapped are almost as pathetic as these were two decades ago. Indeed, with the life and its environs becoming more complex, the complexities and ramifications of these problems of the deaf also tend to become acute and more confusing.

There are three main reasons for this state of affairs.

Firstly, the core of all these problems has been generally ignored even by experts- This relates to psychological constraints in matter of reclaiming, then educating and training and finally rehabilitating (which also includes social assimilation) of the deaf-mutes. If this crux of the problem were broken, the solutions of the all related problems could become incredibly easier. In fact a breakthrough can be achieved with the least effort,

Secondly, the understanding and comprehension of the problems involved is incomplete and solutions offered are inadequate and piecemeal. There has yet to be a well-considered integrated and well-planned approach to the solution of the problems of deaf and dumb. The Government and other agencies, within their limitations, are doing their best but this does not touch even a fringe of the whole problem.

Thirdly, whatever has been proposed remains mostly on the paper because of lack of funds, lack of organisation and lack of urgency.

CORE OF THE PROBLEM

In this paper, however, I am only touching upon the first reason because a fuller understanding of this basic and vital aspect of the whole problem will, I am sure, greatly ease it and will greatly diminish the need of funds, organisations and expertise, because it will open wide vistas of self-help effort by the afflicted persons, the deaf-mutes themselves, as also their families. This will lessen the burden on the Government and Society.

There is no need of quoting statistics to emphasise this point. There are so many living and brilliant examples to illustrate the symbolic cases in which once the deaf-mutes were able to overcome the basic psychological barrier, establish communication with normal members of the society and fully awaken and stimulate their mental faculties, they were able to educate and train themselves despite the limitations imposed by various obvious factors including their handicap as well as non-availability of avenues for higher education and training, and then, establish themselves like any normal person in suitable vocations, rear normal families and become useful and self-sufficient citizens.

I am not claiming this achievement for adventitiously deaf like myself, who lost their hearing in their teens or even later, but about those deaf who were either born deaf or lost their hearing totally in their earliest part of childhood, rendering them dumb as well. There are hundreds of such deaf mutes who have established themselves as artists, artisans, master tailors, craftsmen, office assistants and clerks, photographers and even small traders and industrialists and who are economically doing better than many of their normal contemporaries.

THE CRUX

But there are thousands of cases all over the country in which the deaf and dumb, deprived of this psychological and mental reclamation by circumstances, have also become mentally retarded and emotionally disarranged; thus, being reduced to abject helplessness. It is even difficult for them to beg, because they know nothing about money or their wants and lack even elementary knowledge about their life and its needs.

In between these two extremes are the majority, who have not been fortunate to get enough opportunities for full mental development and also for establishing full communication with the society as a whole. They have, however, got some vocational training and instructions in Three Rs. Most of them have small jobs. But they have little or no future. They are not treated well. They cannot dream of a normal and full life. This is because of lack of opportunity as well as lack of fuller psychological and mental development.

It must be noted, that except for those who remain mentally and psychologically unreclaimed and so become mentally retarded as well—(all of them, with rare exceptions, belong

weaker and illiterate sections of the society in which incidence of deafness is also relatively more) all other deaf and dumb are, as a rule, more inquisitive; that is, they want to know and to express themselves. And when these urges are not satisfied but actually suppressed, this leads to a degree of mental imbalance in them which causes impediments in their development and day to day life.

THREE EXAMPLES

To explain my emphasis on the imperative need of mental and psychological reclamation of the deaf-mutes to ensure their full rehabilitation as useful and self-sufficient citizens, I may illustrate three cases.

CASE "A"—Mr. 'A' was born deaf (and so rendered dumb) in a middle class family. Both of his parents were educated and conscious of their duties as parents. Naturally, they were sad, but the misfortune of their child made them only more conscientious about their handicapped baby and more determined to see him well placed in his life. They collected, whatever information as was available to establish communication with the child and helped him in all possible ways to fully awaken his senses and natural curiosity. They trained him to play like normal children and express himself through gestures. Later, they got him admitted in the school for the deaf in Delhi.

The parental care and early admittance of the child in the school, also modern clinical and other therapeutic methods used in the school helped the child to 'speak' and 'hear' through lip reading. He proved a brilliant student and passed his lower secondary standard comparatively at a younger age as compared to other average deaf students. If avenues were available he could have even graduated or become a post graduate, but unfortunately even now there is not even one Higher Secondary School for deaf-mutes in the whole country.

But this boy and his parents did not give up. He had already developed an aptitude for art and he became an artist of calibre after his graduation from Delhi College of Art, exceeding even normal students. Now as a commercial artist he is well established. On his own he has enlarged his academic knowledge as well and is fully familiar with what goes on in the world.

He is now a married young man, proud father of a normal child, owner of his own house and obviously with a secure future. He carries on his business independently. It is obvious that his success story would not have its start at all if his parent had not first of all reclaimed him mentally and adjusted him psychologically to the environs.

CASE—"B"—Mr. B. was also born deaf in a poor family in a slum area (or it could be remote rural area). His illiterate and superstitious parents thought him to be a curse and evil omen. First, he was neglected and then ill treated especially when his exasperated and inexperienced mother failed in making him stand and walk properly, teach him to eat and drink in a normal way. His parents and their relatives knew nothing about methods to reclaim a deaf child and train him. They knew nothing about school and clinics for the deaf because even their normal children did not get any schooling.

The result was that this poor deaf boy could not attain even animal level of mental development by the time he was 12. Now he is twenty and lies perpetually on a street corner as his parents have died. No one is there to look after him. He lives on crumbs thrown on him by people. He is totally dumb about what the human life actually is. They say he is mad, but that is not true. Peeping deep in his eyes you can feel his suppressed and unsatisfied curiosity. His real trouble is that his senses were never awakened and acclimated to normal existence and development.

'CASE C' :-Mr. C was born in suburban lower middle class family. He was not born deaf, but lost his hearing totally due to an acute typhoid attack when he was barely 10 months old. His parents were preplexed and the misfortune caused a serious set-back to his normal development. However, his father was educated and his mother also considerably enlightened though she was almost illiterate. Somehow they evolved a method between themselves as to help the boy to express himself by gestures to some extent. When the boy was 10 years old, his parents came to know that a school for the deaf had been opened in a near by town. Although it was well beyond their means, they somehow managed for his admittance in that school, which however, was not as well equipped as the school in Delhi.

Because the speed of his earlier development and mental adjustment had been slow, he did not prove a brilliant student at the school. It took him 12 years to pass his lower secondary standard and also pick up the vocation of tailoring. At 22 he was not a fully developed person, yet he managed to support himself and adjust himself to the life. Today he is a wage earning tailor. But he can not fully mix up with normal society, in fact he shuns it. His I.Q. is poor. For obvious reasons he remains un-married and this has produced new emotional tensions and psychological complexities. He also complains about ill-treatment by his employer.

THREE CATEGORIES

Today, the deaf and dumb in India can be broadly divided in the three categories marked and symbolised by the three case histories given above. The class C forms a majority. The class 'A' is a small minority, whereas class 'B' is considerable in numbers. In a vast country as India, still overwhelmed by poverty and backwardness, the conditions could not be any different.

The question is how this problem, formidable and complicated as it is, can be solved. If we go on at present pace then it will take another three or four decades even to realise this basic impediment in rehabilitation of the deaf and dumb. Therefore, if we want speedy solution, we have to fully realise and comprehend the basic handicap and overcome this in a scientific manner.

In olden times there was a saying in my native State that a deaf could be communicated with only through his mother. But this will not do in the modern age. Of course, the basic responsibility to break communication barrier of the deaf child lies with his parents. They have

to initiate the first efforts in this direction. But greater responsibility lies on the Government and the society. The parents can lay only ground work that too when they are properly guided, especially when they are illiterate and backward. Later, the entire responsibility lies on the Government and the society.

I think the most practical approach to this problem is that an agency should be created for the early care of the deaf. Whenever a deaf is born or some child loses its hearing in its babyhood or early childhood, trained volunteers or social workers should immediately help its parents in matter of establishing communication with the afflicted child and help it to express. Before he or she is five, the child should be compulsorily admitted to a properly equipped kindergarten, where communication barrier can be fully broken by modern clinical and therapic methods and the child's normal education and training is thus assured. In this process the reclaimed child will also complete his or her higher secondary standard in usual time fixed for normal student. The later advancement and development will take its own shape according to natural talent and apptitude of the child, as in case of normal persons.

I do not claim that this process will prove a hundred percent success, because, as is the case with normal persons, certain inherent defects may cause mental retardness in some deaf children. Like the normal being, only few deaf will prove extra brilliant, many may prove duds, but the big majority will prove average or above average and that what is aimed at.

OTHER PROBLEMS

Then it must be noted that properly trained, educated and rehabilitated deaf also will as do the the normal people, suffer from some other psychological problems and complications. Lack of social intercourse with normal persons causes an isolationist complex among the deaf. They are as a general rule more suspicious, more sensitive and more inquisitive. For obvious reasons this problem can not be fully solved, but if social intercourse and cultural development of the deaf alongwith the normal ones is encouraged this complex problem can be eased and its intensity reduced.

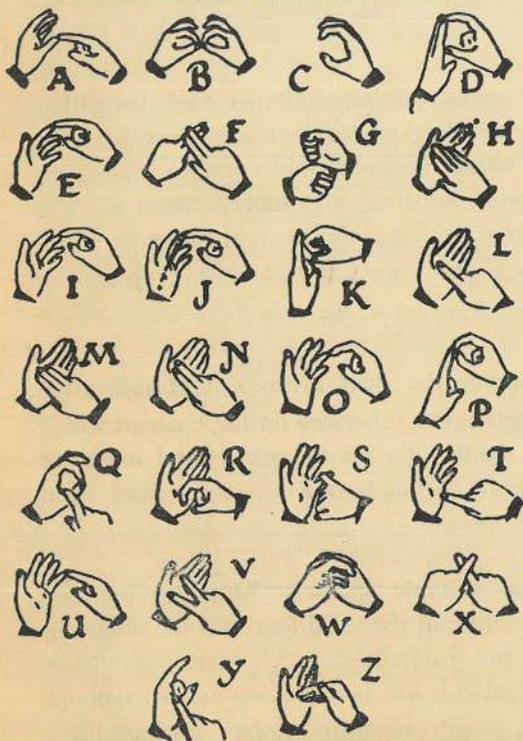
Another emotional and psychological difficulty among the deaf arises out of difficulties in their getting married. There is no disability physical or otherwise on the basis of which the deaf should be barred from marriage and normal family life. On the other hand marriage and family life can do more good to them than it does to normal persons, because they need affection and emotional shelter more than normal persons.

But it is very difficult for deaf boys and girls to get suitable spouses. Marriage between deaf boys and deaf girls were a taboo till recently because of the valid fear that the offspring of such marriages may also be born deaf. It was not groundless fear. Many cases have proved that is was quite possible. Now verious medical aids like inoculation against typhoid and other virus the presence of which in the mothers's womb generally causes deafness, has reduced this danger but it has not been eliminated.

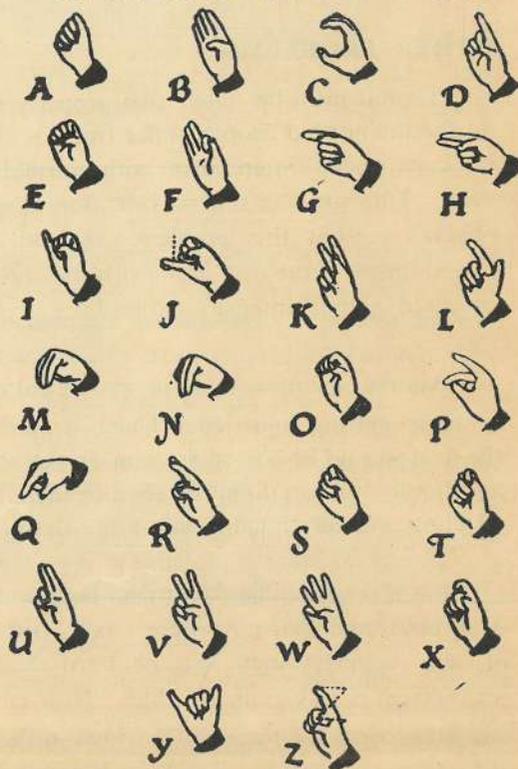
There are other practical reasons also which support the idea that a deaf boy or deaf girl should marry the normal person of the opposite sex. But this is very hard to arrange. There are also economic and social disabilities. The result is that so many deaf remain unmarried and this causes more complications to them than it should cause to normal person. How this problem can be solved, I do not know. May be, it can be eased by encouraging marriages between deaf partners after medical check and other precaution. Even if some deaf are born as a result, this should be tolerated because the deaf are born even to normal couples. Besides, 'mixed' that is 'normal and deaf' conjugal partnerships can also be arranged through organising proper matrimonial bureaus etc.

Still other cause of psychological maladjustment among the deaf is the discriminatory, and sometimes harsh treatment they are subjected to by their employers. In the first place it is very hard for them to secure employment in open market even if they are sufficiently qualified and experienced. Then most of them are discriminated against in matter of wages, promotions and other facilities. When a qualified deaf person is superseded by a less qualified normal person, it cause great agony and leads to inferiority complex. Proper change in social outlook and legal protection to the employed physically handicapped can remove this difficulty to a great extent.

THE STANDARD MANUAL ALPHABET



THE ONE-HAND MANUAL ALPHABET



Some Random Reflections,

Some Stray Thoughts



By Ramesh M. Gupta

What it is like to be a deaf mute and be denied education? I have often mused. Not that I do not know. I know a number of deaf mutes who have been denied education. Most of them are like animals, ignorant of their very name, the purpose of life as also what goes on around them. Two square meals a day, if they can get them, and all their the carvings are satisfied. There are others, a fortunate few who have manipulated the affairs in such a way by pulling various strings that they have landed cushy jobs in the organisations of the deaf where they get elected to the same post year after year and get paid handsomely for doing nothing.

Which of these two fates await that tiny doll of a girl, born deaf and dumb, whose father enlisted my help, thinking that I have some approach with the Principal of the local school for the deaf, to get her admitted in the school Hostel but who was denied admission on the plea of non-availability of Hostel accomodation? She, tiny tot of a girl, too small to commute in DTC buses even without her handicap, was unable to attend the school, because the school bus had gone out of order and there was no other mode of transport available to her.

Money—is it good or bad? No one seems to know. All have their own ideas on the subject. Some cherish it to such an extent that to get it or to keep what they have got, they would do any thing. Some have renounced it all together. To my mind it is a good thing but only if it is utilised properly. Otherwise it may cause discord,

Take for example our unity efforts. We have been trying our very best to achieve unity but money factor has cropped up. Those getting money for doing welfare work are afraid to merge with us because they think they will lose their income because we in our organisation work free, devote time free and in a merged organisation all may be called to do social service free. Is their fear justified or reasonable? I wonder!

The Government helps voluntary organisations for welfare work through grant-in-aid. It also sees to it that it is properly utilised. But is it actually so, I have often thought?

The grants, to my mind should only be given when there is a unified set-up or at any rate these should be paid to such organisations which are the most representative ones, not to those which have the strongest pull.

There has been multiplicity in the organisations of deaf. All vie with each other to secure grants and the grants obtained are misused in most cases. These just do not help improve the lot of common deaf. Therefore, either the Government should force all the organisations of the deaf to unite or withhold grants all together. Will it do so, I wonder!

There is also need to determine as to which organisation represents the Deaf-Mates most. Who will do it, what will be the result? I wonder!



(श्री राम लाल अरोड़ा की दुकान का एक दृश्य)

श्री राम लाल अरोड़ा

विलक्षण प्रतिभा के धनी एक मूक-बधिर

जन्म जात मूक-बधिर होने पर भी श्री राम लाल अरोड़ा एक विलक्षण प्रतिभा के धनी हैं जिन्होंने अपनी योग्यता, परोपकार, उदार वृत्ति, धार्मिक लगन और समाज सेवा के कारण जम्मू शहर, जहाँ के ये रहने वाले हैं, में अपना एक विशिष्ठ स्थान बना लिया है। आज इनकी गणना, जम्मू के सभ्रान्त और गणमान्य व्यक्तियों में होती है।

जन्म से ही मूक-बधिर होते हुए भी इन्होंने लगन और परिश्रम से समाज में अपना स्थान बना लिया है। शिक्षा से वंचित रहने पर भी अनुभव और अभ्यास से ये बहुत योग्य हो गये हैं। जो कमी शिक्षा की रह गई थी वह इन्होंने अपने कार्य में दक्षता प्राप्त करके दूर कर ली है। आज ये अपने क्षेत्र में अग्रणी हैं।

जम्मू के जैन बाजार में स्थित इनकी फैनियों और कतलमों की भारत प्रसिद्ध दुकान है जहाँ ये अपने हाथों से अत्यन्त उच्च श्रेणी की श्रेष्ठ एवम् सुस्वादु फैनियां बनाते हैं व कारीगरों से अपनी देख रेख में बनवाते हैं जो देश के सब भागों में भेजी जाती है व पसन्द की जाती है।

व्यापार का मुनाफा इन्होंने परोपकार और धर्मार्थ में ही लगाया है। अपने पसीने की कमाई से एक मकान बना कर ट्रस्ट को सौंप दिया है। जम्मू के मंदिरों और गरीबों को भी दिल खोल कर दान देते हैं।

अपने में मस्त, कार्य से संतोष करने वाले सत्तर वर्षीय श्री अरोड़ा अविवाहित है। माता पिता के बहुत आग्रह करने पर भी इन्होंने शादी नहीं की। प्रभु भक्ति और परोपकार को ही इस कर्मठ तपस्वी ने अपना जीवन समर्पित कर दिया है।

इनका पता है :—श्री राम लाल अरोड़ा जला फैनियां वाला जैन बाजार, जम्मू तबी जम्मू काश्मीर

Multiplicity In Organisations Of Deaf—

Bane Or A Boon ?



By
Devi Singh Chauhan

Man has often been called a sociable animal. It is, therefore, natural for him to seek company of others. Man's desire to form collective organisations to attain mental, physical, educational, religious, political aims and objectives can also be understood. Hence the multiplicity of such organisations, each of which, however, plays a specific role and meets specific needs and requirements. Their contribution to the growth and development of 'man' is, therefore, constructive.

Sociable though the man may be, he is highly individualistic also, having his own specific views and ideas, likes and dislikes. Like-minded people, therefore, tend to flock together. This has further increased the multiplicity in organisations.

Then there are multiple social welfare organisations. Initially different philanthropists had created trusts, donated funds with specific aims and objects. Still other people had banded together, moved by the plight of a specific section of the handicapped and had collectively strived to mitigate the suffering of a particular section of the society. In the third category of the welfare organisations, with which we are essentially concerned are those which were set up, either independently or with the guidance and help of sympathetic normal people, by the handicapped themselves in a determined bid to improve their lot.

Dubious Distinction

Among all the physically handicapped people, perhaps the deaf and dumb have the dubious distinction of having the largest number of voluntary organisations. Every major city in the country, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi etc., each has over half a dozen of such organisations many of which proudly bear the name of an All India organisation. Here in Delhi alone, there are over a score of organisations of the deaf, at least four of which boast All India names.

Even in spite of so many organisations, the problems of the deaf have neither diminished nor eased a bit. This may appear to be a paradox but none the less it is the bitter truth that with the multiplicity in the organisations of the deaf, their problems have also multiplied, and for valid reasons.

For one thing, 'Service before self' is not the motto of these organisations many of which have been set up out of conflicting self-interests. Distrust, suspicion of others has often been the reason for birth of a new organisation of deaf. At times, is it a simple case of egoism, for in one organisation, all can not naturally be leaders. The result is that we now have as many organisations as we have leaders among the deaf.

Obviously organisations born out of such circumstances can not be expected to play a positive role. At best these can satisfy narrow self-interests or egoism of a few. These can not, by their very nature solve the complex problems of the deaf. Often enough, these do not even have their impact felt.

One of the main reasons for multiplicity in the organisations of the deaf and their ineffectiveness is the fact that those in power in such organisations do not believe in sharing power or ameliorating the lot of common deaf. Once having been elected to a post, they stick to it by fair or foul means. The result is that today we have in some of the organisations of deaf persons who have been holding the same post for over 20 years and more. At times, some shuffling of cards can be witnessed but it is always between the same set of people. Others never stand a chance and feeling left out, they are compelled to break-away in sheer disgust.

Duplicity of Efforts

Any co-ordination between such organisations born out of differences can be ruled out at the outset. The result is that though having the same aims and objectives, there are multiple organisations engaged in the field. The spirit of competition is also lacking. While on the political front, the defections have ceased, engineering defections from other organisations is still quite a popular hobby among these organisations which has incidently further strained the already strained relations.

What is the most pathetic aspect of the problem is the fact that with the lowest percentage of literacy among all the physically handicapped, the deaf have the least number of really good educated people among their rank and file who can work to attain their set goals. The problems of the deaf, on the other hand are most peculiar and complex requiring a concentrated all-out effort which under the given circumstances appear to be an impossibility. Good workers are either totally ignored or relegated to handling petty affairs. Many are not entirely averse to use them as their tools and the ability of these good, educated and enlightened workers which could be put to constructive uses is frittered away, by the self-styled leaders in consolidating their own positions.

To understand the working of these organisations, the curious methodology adopted by them can be briefly examined here. The All India organisations can be discussed first.

Affiliation being in the hands of those in power, it has been accorded to only such of the organisations which are manned by their supporters who toe their line, irrespective of their poor representative quality. Affiliation once accorded is also valid so long as the organisation or its representative blindly follows those in power at the All India level. As a result better organised, more representative organisations which could play a positive role are deliberately kept out.

Another little known fact is that these All India bodies are by and large ruled over by either half literate or totally illiterate deaf and dumb who, however, because of the factors stated earlier get elected year after year and also draw handsome salaries and allowances, also honorarium which they can never hope of earning else where. Of course, there are a few educated deaf too in such organisations who may still prove the means of salvation of their fellow sufferers but they are either too timid to see the writings on the wall or their self-interests out-weigh all other considerations.

Educated deaf by their very nature are enlightened, understanding, co-operative and responsive. Unfortunately they have been relegated to minor posts and have little or no say in policy planning or day to day working of these organisations. It is to be hoped that by and by, though late entrants in the field, they will gain self-confidence, assert their high qualities, rise above narrow self-interests and in the larger interests of the deaf, be instrumental in achieving lasting and firm unity among the organisations of the deaf at All India level as also at State level.

Now a few words about State level organisations. Though many boast of being State level organisations, the irony is that their membership and activities are confined to a very small area in their cities which often may have half a score of similar organisations, many of which decidedly better organised. But once hooked to an All India body, it remains as the sole representative organisation of that State even though it may not be representing . 001 percent of the deaf population of that State, nay even the particular city.

Of course, there are exceptions. Some State organisations, especially in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, even without the State level label have done excellent work but their achievements have either conveniently been ignored by the All India bodies or belittled so that they may themselves corner all the glory.

Divide And Rule

Thus we find that the multiplicity in the organisations is the direct out come of the egoistic policies of a few who have used the age old mode of divide and rule to stay in power indefinitely. How this has helped the deaf is a moot point.

On the face it, the plight of the deaf has worsened; not because Government's apathy to their lot but because there are too many cooks who spoil the broth, so to say.

The number of schools for the deaf have increased many fold, adult education and training centres for the deaf have also been opened and the Government has actually gone out of its way to provide special employment opportunities. However, the deaf, divided as they are, have failed to take advantage of these opportunities. The result is that the grants earmarked for the welfare of the deaf lapse year after year, the schools in absence of a vigilant check by elder deaf are not fulfilling their allotted role while in absence of co-ordination with employment authorities and post employment assimilation efforts; the few employment opportunities provided by an understanding and sympathetic Government are also lost to the deaf.

The role of the voluntary organisations is to act as a bridge between the Government and its various agencies on the one hand and the common deaf on the other, also to supplement Government efforts in the matter of education, training and rehabilitation of the deaf. The present organisations of the deaf—barring a few exceptional cases, have failed miserably in this respect.

By and large, their mode of working is similar. Their entire efforts are centered around raising funds through various means by playing upon the sympathies of a kind public. This goes on round the year. Substantial funds are also collected but after meeting the administrative expenditure including handsome salaries, allowances and honorarium for office bearers who are elected for life, so to say, alas nothing much remains for the real welfare work.

No doubt, such organisations do have some sort of training facilities for a very limited number of deaf, but these are more of the nature of window dressing. These training establishments, ill equipped and under-staffed as these are, have also been commercialised to the extent that earning money rather than training the deaf take precedence. Those unfortunate few who do some how complete the so called training at these places just stand no chance to compete with other persons who are better trained and better taught. Hence this effort, however, constructive it may have been, has also not helped the deaf any.

Another function of these so called 'chosen' leaders of the deaf is to go visiting abroad as often as possible, often over half a dozen, many of them hearing normal people, at a time. To my calculation over a hundred such pleasure trips have been made by these, people, at an enormous cost of course. What good these trips have done the common deaf, I am too dull-witted to understand. Had even one experiment based on what goes on in developed countries for the welfare of the deaf, been initiated and implemented, all the expenditure on these jaunts could have been justified. Alas, there is just nothing to show, except a few well filled bellies.

One of the main reasons as to why no advantage what-so-ever has been gained by all these trips abroad is the fact that the so called representatives of the Indian deaf are half literate and can never establish rapport with their counterparts in highly developed countries. As for the normal people who often accompany such delegations of the deaf, they have their own axes to grind. The net result is that though with immense potentials, these trips prove nothing more or less than just pleasure trips.

This being the case with all India bodies which are supposed to set a trend for the others, the working of the provincial organisations can also be expected to be similar. In fact, like their counter parts of the All India organisations, major part of their energy is wasted in wagg-ing a futile war with their opponents. This is by no means an exception.

Futile Efforts

Having the highest literacy percentage, and being quite independent of the so called numerous All India bodies, it has been the constant endeavour of the New Delhi Deaf and Dumb Club to achieve lasting unity among the organisations of the deaf, first at local level,

men at State level and ultimately at All India level. Unfortunately, because of the bigoted stance and egoism of certain people in power, who incidently stand to lose their position of power and pelf, in case of unity, all the well meaning efforts of the Club have proved futile. The Club has, however, not given up hope. It sincerely desires unity among all the organisations of the deaf, not for it self but for the posterity which will never forgive those who are today obstructing the unity moves.

Even if for obvious reasons, a unity can not be achieved, because of deep rooted seeds of disunity sown by the interested parties over the decades, some sort of central co-operation and co-ordination, especially in matters relating to relations with the Government and its various agencies can be arrived at. After all, there are different organisations for the welfare of the blind and other physically handicapped which work hand in hand when matters affecting common interests are involved. Surely some such system can also be made applicable to the organisations of the deaf.

The obvious conclusion and an unescapable one is that multiplicity in the organisations of the deaf has sown the seeds of dissension, divided the deaf into almost water-tight compartments, perpetuated the rule of a few unscrupulous elements, obstructed the path of progress, denied deaf opportunitises that would otherwise have been available to them and made the pathetic lot of the common deaf even more pathetic.

Unity at all levels is the only solution. This will have to be achieved if the benefit of various measures initiated by the Government are to be brought within the reach of the common deaf. There is no alternative. In unity alone lies the salvation of the deaf.

How this unity can be achieved? So far as this writer is concerned in his opinion, there is only one way. This is to rid the voluntary organisations of the deaf of those egoistic elements who have for their personal gains been obstructing all unity moves. They have been ruling the roost for over two decades now. It is a good opportunity for them either to quit honourably or face the ire of the common deaf who can not obviously be fooled for all the time to come. A word to the wise should be sufficient. The writing is there on the wall.

Another suggestion what ever its worth is that a curb may be imposed on salaries, allowances, prerequisites etc. enjoyed by the "elected" leaders of the deaf for whom a maximum term of office may also be prescribed. Pleasure jaunts abroad may also be stopped for the time being.

The Government, though it can not obviously move in the matter of its own can at least force various organisations of the deaf to term by with-holding grants and making it clear that Government funds will only be available if the different organisations unite. The question is, will the Government act on the suggestion?



Our Grateful Thanks Are Due To

- (1) Hon'ble **SHRI BALI RAM BHAGAT**, Speaker, Lok Sabha
for being our Chief Guest
- (2) Hon'ble **PROF. SIDDHESHWAR Pd.**, Dy. Minister for Energy
for Presiding over our function
- (3) All Our Advertisers and Patrons
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20. Mr- Brij Anand	10 00		
		TOTAL	496 00

THE YEAR IN PICS.



- (1) Smt. Premala Bai Chavan, M.P., our Executive President addressing the gathering on 13th Annual Day. (2) Dr. (Smt.) Sarojini Mahishi, Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, saying a few words. (3) Souvenir being presented to Dr. Mahishi by Shri P.N. Natu, who is speaking in the next pic. (5) Shri K.P. Gupta, Principal, Govt. Lady Noyce School for the Deaf, reading Annual Report on behalf of the General Secretary. (6) A scene of the gathering. (7, 11, 13) Dr. Mahishi giving away Merit Certificates. (8) Witnessing panto-mime, (9) Exhibition of handicrafts (10 & 12) Scene from Panto-mime show.

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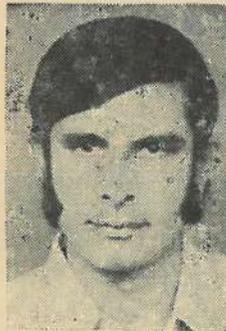
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Shri B.R. Bhatia



Shri Vinod Kumar Jain

Photograph
not available

Shri Suresh Jain

Do Thine Allotted Task !

No man shall escape from act
By shunning action ; nay and none shall come
By mere renouncements unto perfectness ;
Nay, and no jot of time, at any time,
Rests any actionless ; his nature's law
Compels him, even unwilling, into act.
(For thought is act in fancy)

.....He who, with strong body serving mind,
Gives up his mortal powers to worthy work,
Not seeking gain, Arjuna ! such a one
Is honourable.
Do thine allotted task.

—Bhagwad-Gita (III - 4/8)

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२ अपंग बाल गृह मानसिक रूप से अविकसित बालकों के लिए, १ गृह, ६ अंध तथा मूक-बधिर पाठशालाएं तथा १ ब्रेल ग्रंथालय स्थापित की गई। प्रति वर्ष लगभग १६०० विकलांग छात्रों को वृत्तियां दी जाती हैं। राज्य की सभी अशासकीय विकलांग कल्याण संस्थाओं को अनुदान दिया जाता है।

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(पंचायत एवं समाज सेवा संचालनालय, मध्य प्रदेश द्वारा प्रसारित)

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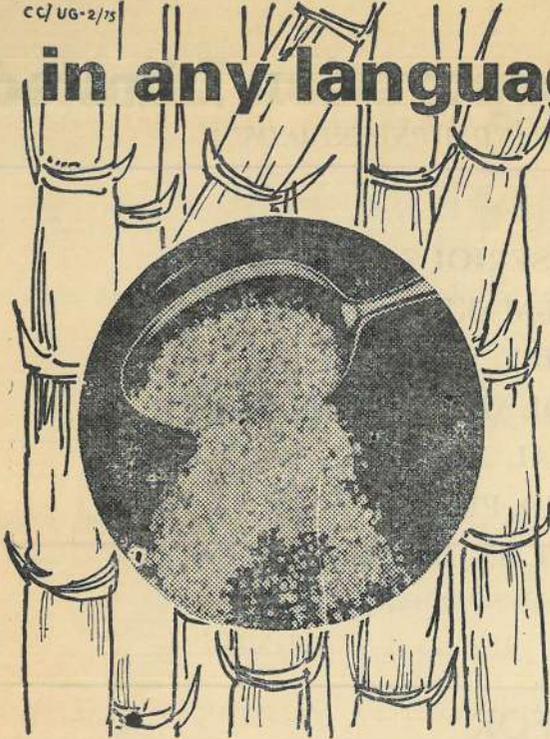
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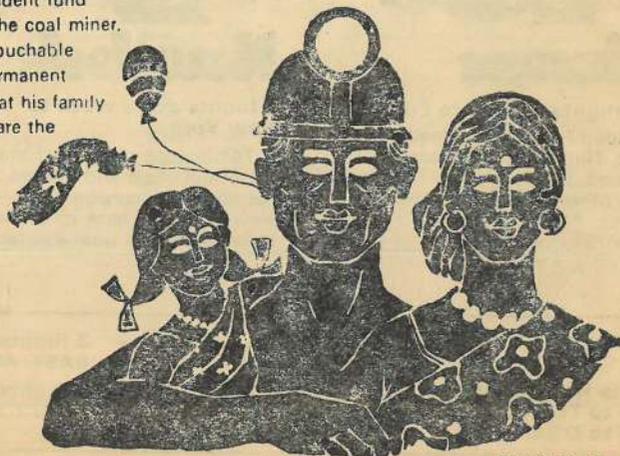
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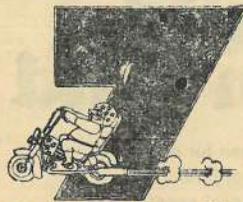
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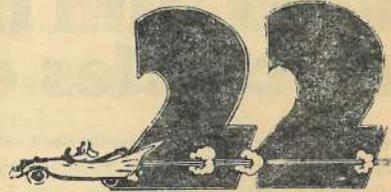
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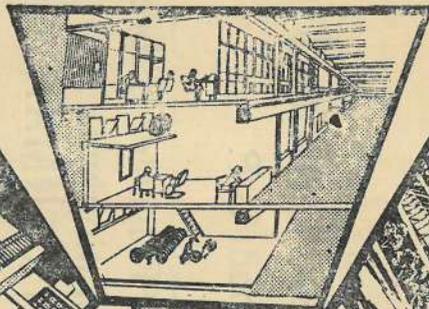
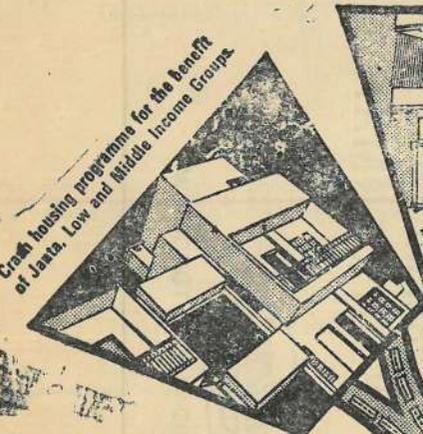


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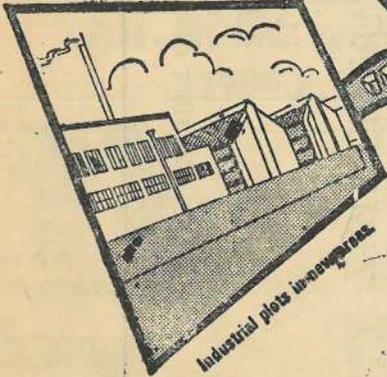
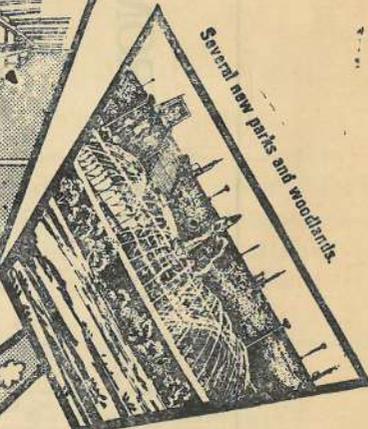
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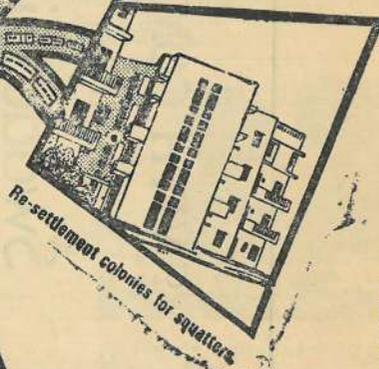
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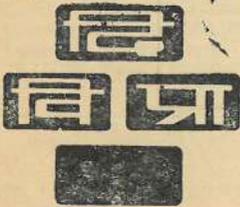
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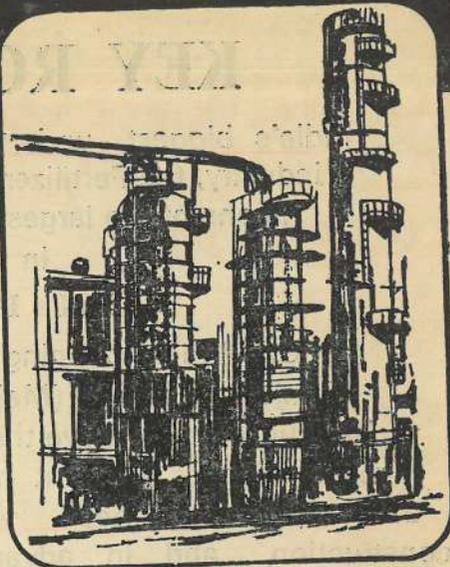
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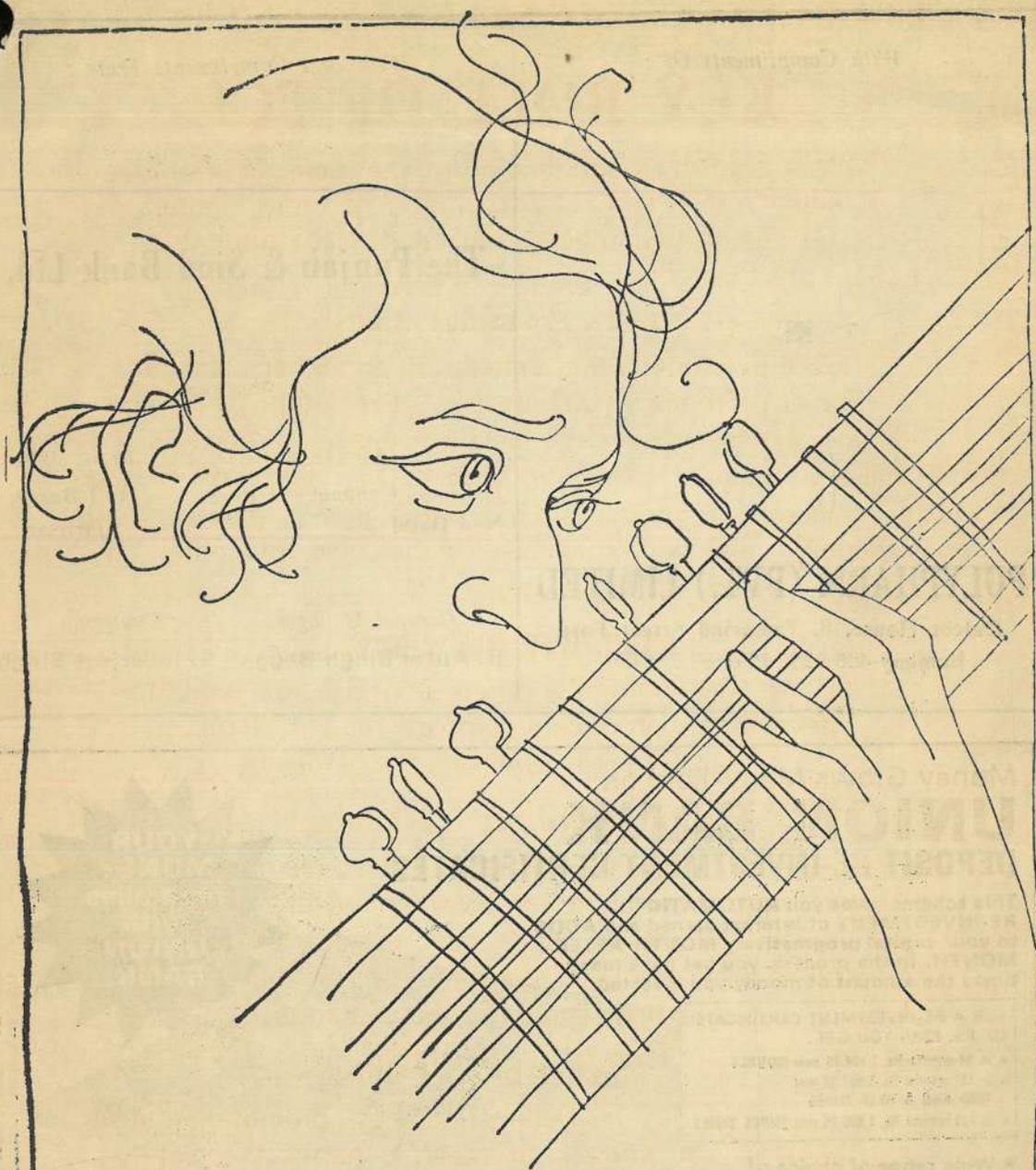
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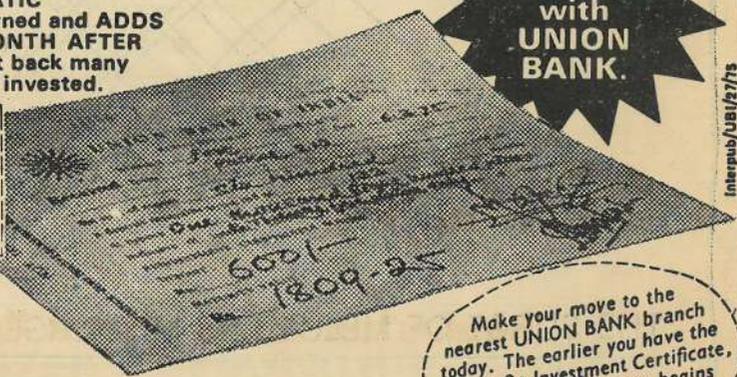
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