

# EVE'S WEEKLY



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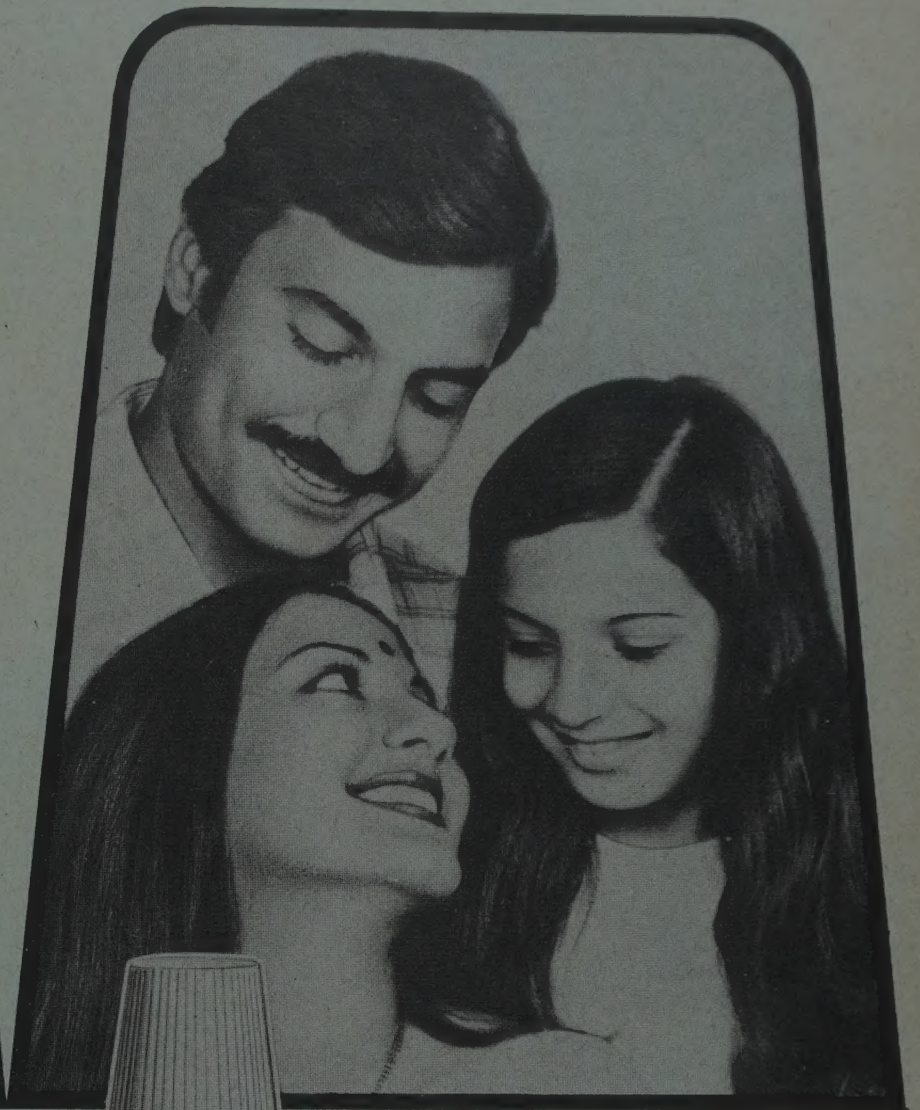
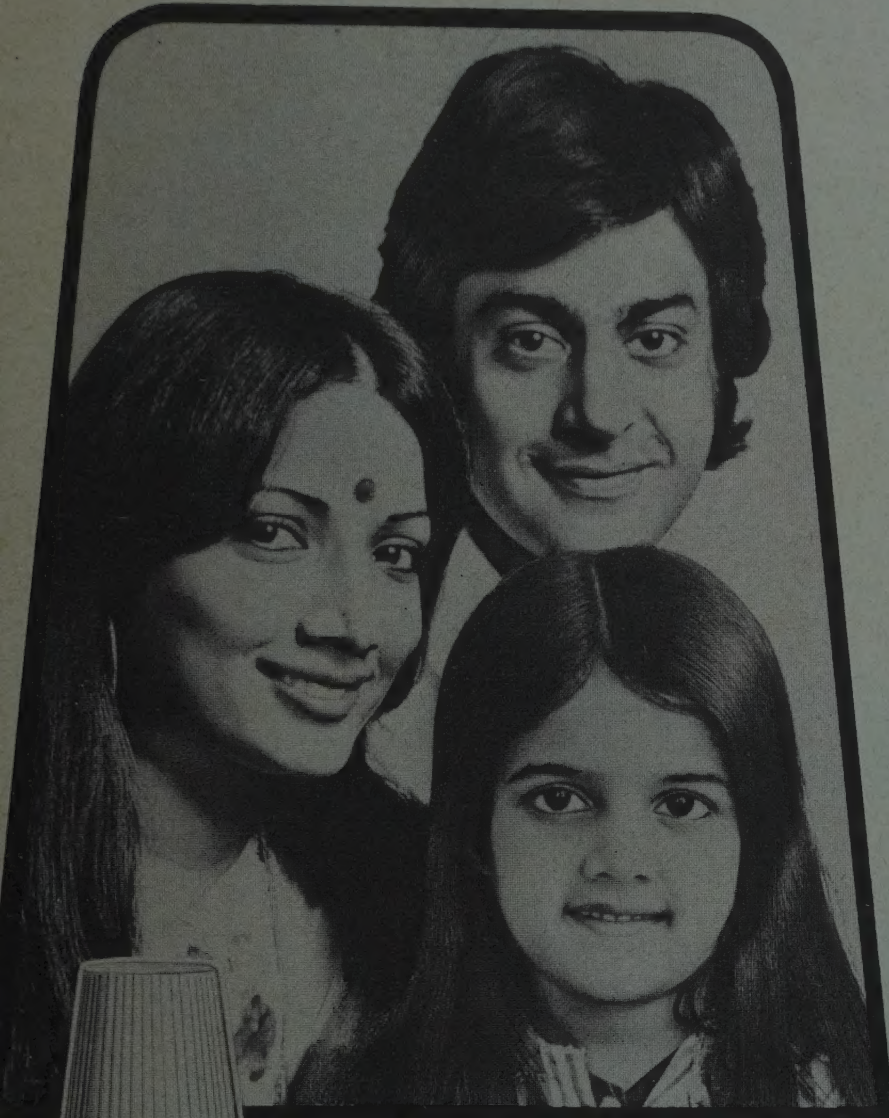


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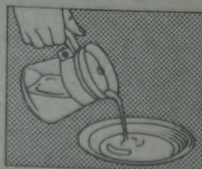


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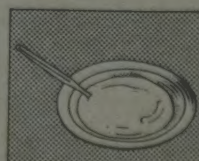
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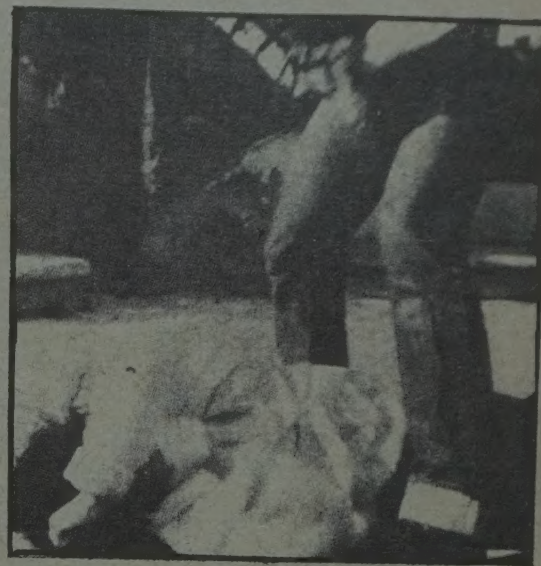
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## THIS WEEK

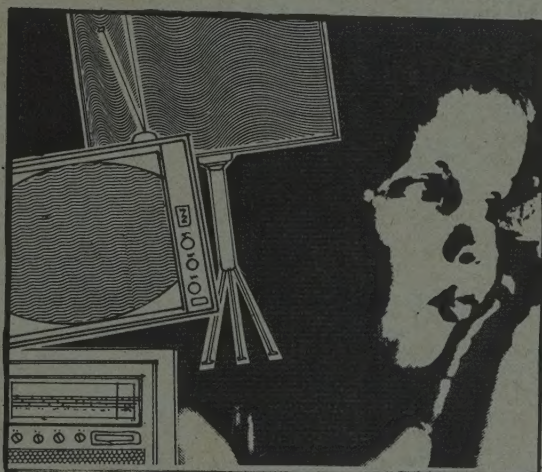
### BATTERED WIVES

What gives a husband the right to hit his wife? And why is wife-beating considered too personal a crime for anyone, including the police and the courts, to interfere in? Women are now beginning to have the courage to say they are beaten by their husbands and to seek alternative lives. A report. **Page 10.**



### MINI MEDIA

Today children are exposed to the mass media more than ever and the influence the media have on them cannot be ignored. Are the offerings to children good quality in both content and form? **Page 36.**



### HUSBAND-ABUSE

There was a flutter of excitement not long ago when a U.S. survey discovered the battered husband. A classic "man bites dog" story, it received wide publicity. **Page 12.**

### THE ART OF PIROPOS

The gentle Latin American art of piropos is slowly dying, along with the era of chivalrous gallants and damsels in distress. A look at this practice. **Page 43.**

### ALSO

Step by Step Cookery: Hawaii Buns — **Page 19** Streethitakarni: Steady work with women — **Page 21** Film Interview: LaVerne T. Hall, from America with love — **Page 23** Women entrepreneurs in the U.S.—**Page 29** Woman in Focus: Anima Roy — **Page 35.**

### REGULAR FEATURES

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Cover:  
KASHMIRA BHATHENA,  
Ambiqueen-Hyderabad,  
selected by Eve's Weekly in  
association with Shri Ambica  
Mills.

Photograph : Taiyeb Badshah

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PRINTED AND PUBLISHED  
FOR THE PROPRIETORS:  
EVE'S WEEKLY LTD., BY  
J. C. JAIN  
AT SANJ VARTAMAN PRESS,  
BOMBAY SAMACHAR MARG,  
FORT, BOMBAY 400 023.

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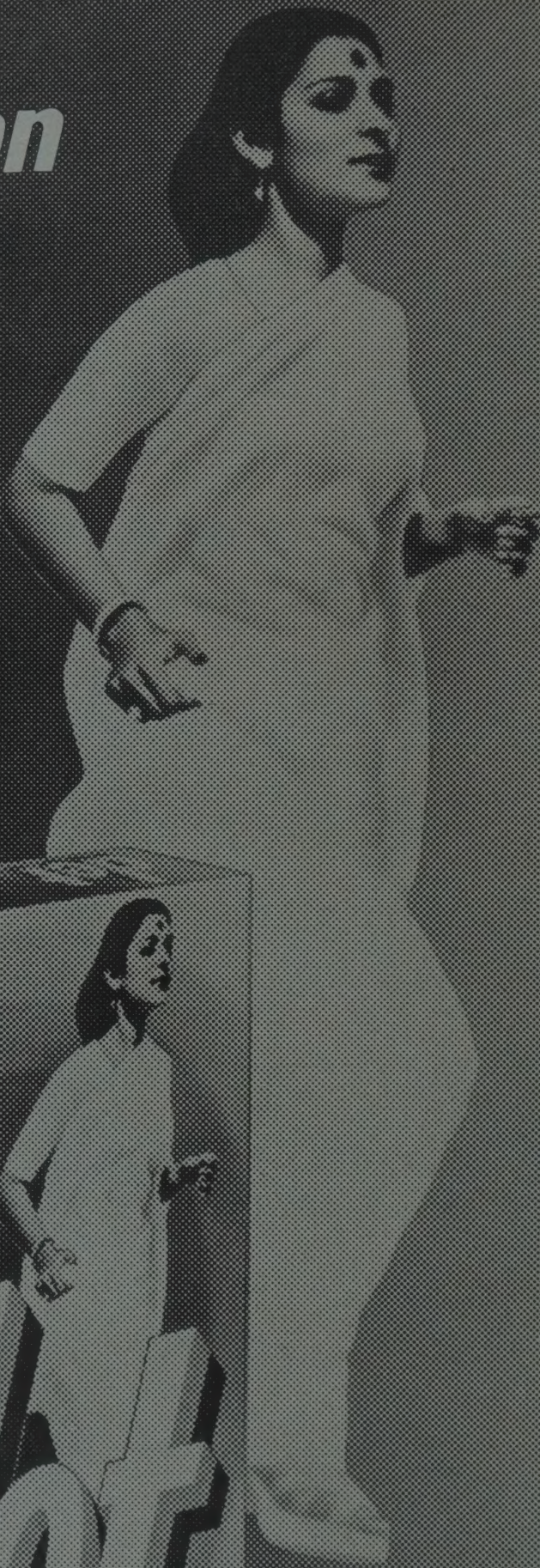
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1st PRIZE

## STERI-DOUBTS

A young couple I know, decided to limit their family to the ideal number of children: two, a boy and a girl, by the man undergoing sterilisation. Unfortunately, soon after, the son died of a childhood illness. An attempt was made to undo the sterilisation, but it was in vain. In another case, the wife died, a few years after the husband had undergone vasectomy. The poor fellow is only 30, but it is difficult for him to re-marry, because he has got himself sterilised.

These incidents have made me wonder whether we should advocate sterilisation as a method of family planning to young couples as soon as they have two or three children. Would it not be better to advise them to try other conservative methods such as the loop, the pill or Nirodh, at least until the partners reach an age when reproduction is still possible, but the desire to have children or remarry (in case of death of one of the partners) is considerably less. By this time the woman will be around 35 or 40 years and the man, 40 or 45 years. This will prevent tragedies like the ones mentioned above, which are by no means improbable in any family — indeed, the situation is terrible for those who lose one or more children after undergoing the operation. If it is the wife who has been sterilised, the husband may even seek a divorce in order to re-marry and have more children.

So, while thinking of the nation, one should not totally forget the individual, especially when it comes to planning something with irreversible effects.

**DR. USHA V. PADIYAR**  
Baroda

It has been mooted that vasectomy is reversible. Be that as it may, we have to think of the larger good of the nation. Male sterilisation is a most sensible method of family

planning. The instances you cite may be true but they would be few and far between — not enough to warrant the giving up of the sterilisation programme.

2nd PRIZE

## CARELESS CITIZENS

It is our national habit to decry the services rendered to us by our Government. Even so, the meagre public utilities are used so shabbily as to benefit as few citizens as possible. At the head of our road there are two public conveniences. They can be smelt long before they are seen — and then there are the innumerable shanty-town dwellers who prefer to answer nature's call by the roadside.

When a public bus finally arrives, it is liberally painted over in black with slogans for the elections to the University Students' Union and in the scramble for it, the women and the weak are invariably left behind. Last year the Delhi Transport Corporation spent almost Rs. two lakhs to repaint these buses.

The milk vending booth is out of order at least twice a week because impatient customers repeatedly bang it or depress the levers unnecessarily if the milk is not delivered immediately.

Entire pages are torn out of books, borrowed from the public libraries, or they are liberally scribbled over with inane remarks.

Few people realise that the money spent to repair such damage could be more profitably used to increase and improve such services.

**MYOLA PEREIRA, Delhi**

And so, it would seem the citizens get what they deserve. This lack of discipline, this utter absence of national pride never ceases to amaze us. Yes, people crib about the lack of services but what do they do to deserve these?

3rd PRIZE

## COME, ALL YE CHILDREN!

In recent years a plethora of 'Adults Only' movies has been churned out all over the country, particularly in Kerala. These films, on account of their daring bedroom and rape scenes, draw large crowds, but these crowds are seldom made up exclusively of adults. Visit any theatre where an 'A' movie is being screened and one is bound to find a generous sprinkling of non-adults — mainly teenagers boys. These youngsters no doubt gain admission with the connivance of the theatre authorities who are more interested in boosting their ticket sales than in safeguarding the morals of these highly impressionable children, on whose immature minds such films are bound to exercise a most deleterious influence. What is required is strict vigilance on the part of the police to check this non-adult infiltration, and prosecution of the theatre authorities who permit it.

**GEORGE N. NETTO, Kerala**

The coin has two sides. There seems to be a penchant for clamping an "A" certificate on any movie that deals with sex. It is folly to think that intelligent, full-blooded teenagers will be kept away by a mere certificate. However, until such time as the regulation prevails the law must be upheld and helped, not violated. What the cinema owners are doing is, indeed, dishonest.

## WOMEN AWARE!

There was a time when I used to be a dead-shot letter-writer. Almost every letter I sent, won a prize. If not the First, at least the Second or the Third. Not so anymore.

Do you have something to say? Then say it here. We pay Rs. 25, 15 and 10 for the three best letters.

Times have changed. And so have I. Leave alone winning a prize, the few and far-between letters that I dash off nowadays, don't even get published. Am I a decadent letter-writer then? Maybe. Because the letters that do win prizes these days really amaze me with the novelty and explosiveness of the ideas, concepts and images that they reflect. Modern women have revolutionised the very process of thinking to which they have been conditioned. They now think and express in writing — what they like to think, and not what they have been coerced into thinking. Not what they have been taught to, are supposed to, expected to think.

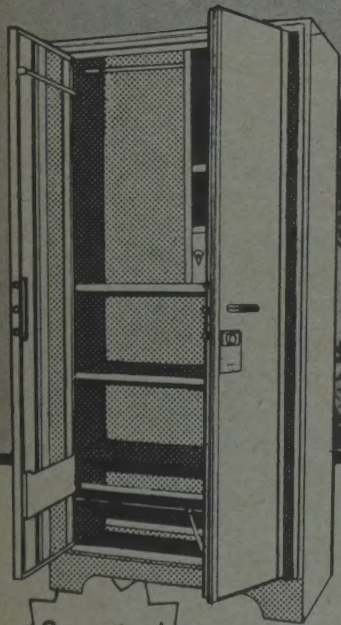
Life, as expressed through these letters, is no longer pre-ordained for these women by a third person, singular number, masculine gender. No longer do they fit themselves into neat little tailored slots for the convenience of others who stand to advantage. Gone are the days of eulogising the husband person, or the self-complacency of the housewifely existence. No longer the shock-value of a cliché-ridden exposure of a mere mother-in-law. No more the self-deception through psychological cowardice. So, hail the new (and old!) letter-writers of an aware-generation who are not afraid to speak out their minds.

Decadent letter-writer O.K. But decadent person? Never. Right?

**SHOMA CHATTERJI**  
Bombay

Right! Women are not the same anymore — and never will be, ever again. And for this grand turnabout, we, at Eve's Weekly, can surely take some of the credit.

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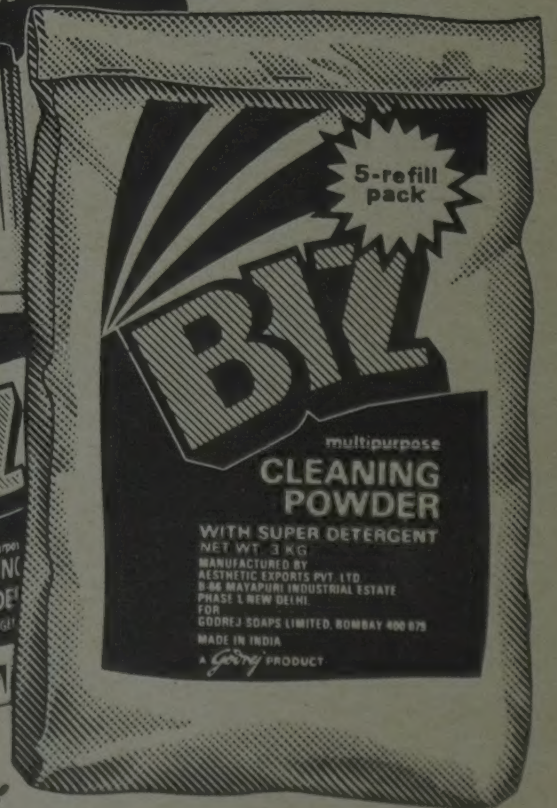
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## READERS' VOICE

Most articles raise a question, a comment or at least a criticism. Write them down and mail them to us!

### WOMEN AND LITERATURE

I must congratulate you on the Special Issue on Women and Literature (December 29). It was the most unforgettable one of 1979. Even the cover was exquisitely artistic and impressive. I hope you will devote more issues to women writers.

PROF. INDRAJIT S. SALUJA, Ludhiana.

The Special Issue on Women and Literature (December 29) was a special new year's gift to readers.

JYOTHI PRABHA RELEKAR, Bangalore.

### DALIT, WOMAN AND WRITER

The article, "Dalit, Woman, and Writer" by Prof. N. G. Bhaware (December 29) was very good. The attitude of Hindu culture is brought out very clearly. Kudos to you for having given prominent coverage to three Dalit writers.

S. D. LONDHE, Bombay.

I was delighted with your Special Issue on Women and Literature (December 29) and particularly impressed by the article on Dalit women writers by Prof. N. G. Bhaware. Dalit writing has added a new revolutionary dimension to Marathi literature, developing its own diction and thus enriching the language. No one is better placed than Dalit women to expose how the other half of society lives. They have a long way to go, but I am sure women like Mrs. Bansode and Mrs. Pavade will succeed in what Dostoevsky called the first cause in the world — the liberation of mankind!

WAHEEDA DALWAI, Bombay.

I was very impressed with the article, "Dalit, Woman, and Writer" (December 29) by N. G. Bhaware. The aspirations of these women writers in spite of slow progress in education and the discouragement meted out to them by the so-called higher society is moving.

S. J. WAGHMARE, Bombay.

The author of the article on Dalit women writers has added prestige to your Special Issue (December 29) by writing about these women on par with their elite counterparts. However, the discussion of their writings was too limited. Many questions remain unanswered. It would be a welcome gesture if you translate and publish some of their poems so that we can get to know these writers better.

HARITA, Bombay.

### OMISSIONS

I read your Special Issue on Women and Literature (December 29) with considerable interest. While most of the articles were informative and well-written, I feel Srimati Lal, who wrote briefly about various authors ("Women Write. . .") did not select them in a representative manner. She has completely omitted women who write in many regional languages. And she has not mentioned several prominent Bengali writers. Some of the Indo-Anglian women writers included do not deserve mention in a feature covering writers of national repute. And she has even omitted Ashapura Devi, winner of the Jnyanpith award, who is still writing. I am afraid a bias has shown through.

M. BALASUBRAMANIAN, Calcutta.

## NEXT WEEK

ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 23

### CANCER AND WOMEN

An interview with a prominent cancer specialist, coverage of the recent Asian Cancer Conference, plus facts you should know about the disease.

### THE TRAUMA OF HYSTERECTOMY

The removal of a major part of one's physical make-up cannot but have emotional repercussions at least temporarily. The important thing is to understand the operation thoroughly. A talk with two leading gynaecologists.

### ART AND MUSIC

And how children respond to them.

### CHANGING

One woman's evolution from bullied daughter-in-law to self-confident woman.

### AN OLD FAVOURITE

Beginning next week, "People Known and Unknown" comes back to you, with newsy, juicy tidbits about the greats and the not-so-greats.

### PLUS

Two do-it-yourself craft ideas.

What kind of man would beat his wife? Is he sick, mentally disturbed, or emotionally unbalanced? Research shows that in America wife beaters come in all sizes, shapes, and colours — and from all income brackets. It is not a new problem in this country, but only recently has it caught the eye of the media and the law.

Americans realise that beating one's wife is a prerogative husbands have enjoyed throughout history, all over the world — but they are not ready to tolerate it any more. Just because most religions preached man's supremacy over woman, and the need of submissiveness on the part of the woman, it does not mean that man should be allowed to continue exercising his power over the life and limbs of the woman sharing his life. Ownerships went out with slavery, no man owns his wife any more. She is an individual with equal rights, and the American law is there to protect her rights. But it requires supreme courage on the part of a battered wife to come out in the open and demand her rights.

British law, which is the origin of U.S. law, gave a man the right to chastise his wife, children, and apprentices. New laws against child abuse and wife beating are threatening to take those pleasures away from the American male!

Research seems to indicate that men who beat their wives have themselves been victims of violence during their formative years. They were either beaten as children, or had witnessed their mother being beaten by their father. Thus the violence is propagated from generation to generation, and the vicious cycle grinds on. Family therapy can help such men, but as their wives have discovered, it is almost impossible to drag them to a counsellor.

But what is it that makes an otherwise stable, considerate, decent man strike out and hit an apparently helpless woman? Is it something she says or does that provokes him? Some psychiatrists seem to think that such men are basically insecure, and this is their desperate means to re-establish themselves as father figures. But Richard Gelles, author of "The Violent Home: A Study of Physical Aggression Between Husband and Wife", does not quite agree. Gelles has learned, through a series of interviews with abused wives, that many men consider "a marriage license to also function as a hitting license." Thus a man who would not dream of hurting a fly, considers it his state-given right to assault his spouse.

What is worse is that there is no ultimate freedom for these un-

fortunate wives. Even when legally separated from their husbands they live under a shroud of constant fear of violent repercussions. Their guilty husbands, instead of feeling repentant, feel hurt, outraged, and publicly humiliated by the disclosure of their wives — often becoming violent, vindictive.

An abused wife's status in American society is very similar to that of a rape victim. She is considered responsible for inciting the violence of which she is the ultimate victim. In most cases the

Therefore, sheer frustration may drive a wife into killing her husband, as in the case of Evelyn Ware of Oklahoma. More and more people are becoming sympathetic to the plight of abused wives, and in this case the jury accepted Mrs. Ware's plea of self-defence, and acquitted her.

The problem is compounded when the husband happens to be a well-known public figure, such as the late Philadelphia Eagles tackle Blenda Gay. Often when his injured wife Roxanne would call in the police, they

In another well-publicised recent case, 30-year-old Francine Hughes of Lansing, Michigan, killed her husband when she could no longer tolerate the beatings she was given in front of the children. One night, while he slept, she doused the bed with gasoline and set it on fire. He died, but the jury pronounced her not guilty.

But these things can happen only in the United States of America—elsewhere in the world things are different. Just a few months ago Noreen Winchester

# **"scream quietly or the neighbours will hear"**

was the title of a BBC film about the vicious practice of wife battering. It requires courage on the part of the battered wife to come out into the open and demand her rights, particularly when her legal status in some countries is as suspect as that of rape victims

**Mona Bannerji**

law puts more credibility in the husband's testimony, and many a wife, seeking divorce on grounds of physical and mental abuse, ends up in a mental institution instead of with a life of freedom.

would be so overawed by the presence of their football hero, that they would forget all about Roxanne and sit down to discuss the sport with Blenda. Roxanne had no alternative but to kill her husband.

of Ireland was sentenced to seven years for killing her father in 1976. Noreen could no longer stand by and see her mother being beaten, so she attacked her father with a butcher knife. In Northern Ireland, where the wife and children are still considered a man's property, Noreen's crime was unforgivable. In the eyes of Irish law a man is not guilty of any criminal act when he assaults the woman he has married — unless he kills her.

At the International Tribunal on Crimes Against Women, held in Brussels in March 1976 women from 33 member countries gave testimony about the battering of wives. Two years before that the wife of Japan's Prime Minister Sato, publicly accused him of beating her. In England, BBC made a movie on the subject, called "Scream Quietly, or the Neighbors Will Hear". And in Russia they say, "A wife isn't a jug... she won't crack if you hit her ten times."

Very quickly the women of the world realized that they would have to unite to protect them-



selves from the violence of men.

Nature seems to support wife-beating. Survival through violence is a part of human history, and whenever a husband is bigger or stronger than the wife his natural impulse is to beat her into submission. The laws of civilization try to hold these brutal impulses in check, but the dam gives way very often, the justification being that violence is at the core of the family structure. A woman could turn to her husband for protection against violence from other men, and in return he had the right to assault her. The religions of the world

the slightest cause may make him strike her:

I have been slapped for saying something about politics, for having a different view about religion, for sweating, for crying, for wanting to have intercourse.

I have been threatened, slapped, and beaten for stating bitterly that I didn't like what he was doing with another woman.

I have nowhere to go if it happens again. No one wants to take in a woman with four children. . . no one



**The story of a woman who has been mentally and physically abused by her husband, the film provoked very hostile reactions from many men in the audience in the discussion that followed the screening in Bombay.**

continue to support these ancient tenets irrationally and the Bible still tells woman that it is her duty to be submissive to her husband, while Islam orders a woman to hide herself blind under her chador and let her lord and master lead her wherever he pleases. Conservative Hindus still teach their daughters that after marriages they have no God but their husband, and if he fancies heaping her with the miseries of Job, she must accept it in all humility as her fate. Equality in marriage is still a long way off.

Wife beating is far more complex than what these few lines would seem to imply, although the bit about it having roots in society's attitude towards women is still true. The first time it happens in any marriage it shocks both spouses equally and both suffer equally. That is the time to re-examine their relationship and draw up some rules.

The following statements from abused wives seems to indicate that once a husband gets into the habit of rough handling his wife,

wants to become involved in what is commonly referred to as a "domestic situation."

This last statement points out the dilemma of every woman who wants to escape from a violent home. Some communities are trying to help battered wives by offering them a place to go with their children. "Haven House" in Los Angeles, one such shelter, houses more than 400 women a year. New York City has an Abused Women's Aid in Crisis Home where even psychiatric help is provided for women who have to pick up the threads of their life and start all over again. But these homes are only temporary shelters, and sooner or later the woman is faced with the problem of earning enough money to move out into an apartment of her own. Seldom does the woman's family want her to move into her parental home with her children and pets. Parents, even in this western society, tend to think that the daughter's inability to lead a happy married life reflects negatively on them.

Erin Pizey, the pioneer in setting up battered wife shelters in England, doesn't seem to think that just having shelters in every town is enough. "It's like putting a bandaid on cancer," he says. The cure has to start at the root of the problem, and a battered wife must first be taught to overcome the general attitude that regards women as inferior, unable to make decisions, and in need of protection. She has to fight this attitude among policemen, lawyers, judges, doctors, and legislators.

Often a woman's worst enemy is her own pride. Publicly admitting that she is a battered wife can be a very degrading and humiliating experience. But there is no alternative. If she cannot stand up for herself and refuse to be pressured into sticking it out for the sake of the children, she is doomed. Robert Wills, assistant counsel for family violence in Washington, D.C., has learned from experience that women who try to endure in silence continue receiving more violence.

Lies soon become a part of life in violent families as both spouses try to convince the world that he or she is the victim and not the perpetrator of the violence.

Neighbours, family, and friends prefer to believe the lies, instead of being confronted with a situation where they would have to take sides. Neighbours all over America still consider it good manners to ignore the sounds of blows, or the sobbing coming from next door. They become resentful if the bruised, bleeding, and sometimes unclad wife arrives on their doorstep for help.

This gives the husband even greater opportunity to ply his violence, and one-third of all female homicide victims in California in 1971 were murdered by their husbands. Nationwide, in 1973 one-fourth of all murders were committed within the family. Boston City Hospital reports that 70 per cent of all assault victims treated in its emergency room are women who have been beaten in their own homes. The unfortunate and frustrating part is that most of these women do not press charges, and both doctors and policemen feel that they have been taken advantage of. So next time the same woman is beaten up, she does not get much sympathy from either the medical staff or the police. In their eyes she has become suicidal and they are helpless onlookers while she is bent on self-destruction.

This lack of determination on the part of battered wives makes it very hard to get any accurate statistics on wife-beating. Emerg-

ency room call sheet and police blotters are unreliable sources as often these women make up stories about accidents and do not tell the truth. Nobody can help a woman unless she honestly comes forth, admits her problem, and is receptive to help. But as things stand, hospital workers feel it is more polite to go along with the wife's story of an accident, no matter how absurd it sounds. Why press for ugly details when she doesn't want to confide?

In the absence of accurate statistics researchers seem to think that "Wife beating in the United States is almost as much a national pastime as baseball." This statement from "Woman in Transition" may be a little exaggerated, but this crime is increasing in violent proportions. American women are now being beaten not only by husbands, but also by ex-husbands, boy friends, lovers, and even their own teenage children. The upper classes try to pretend in public this is not so, even though the violence may be taking place in their own families. Among the lower classes it is accepted as normal, and wives try to hide at the homes of relatives or friends when the husband comes home high on dope or liquor. One recent study suggests that last year at least 28 million American women had been beaten by their husbands, and 4.7 million of these resulted in serious injury.

Very often a battered woman cannot leave her husband for economic reasons. Even when she is a rich suburban housewife with designer clothes and custom-made house, she may in actuality not have even a penny to her name. Vacationing in the Caribbean, entertaining in high style, and mixing with celebrities do not prepare a woman for a paying job, so she finds herself trapped in her house, acting happy, and drowning her tears in alcohol.

In this sort of battle between parents, children suffer most. They experience shock, fear, and shame, which may leave them scarred for life. So in the end they are the real victims, and if not for the sake of the women, then for the sake of this future generation, something has to be done.

America, being America, has another problem that in India we may not be able to imagine: battered husbands, and now they are speaking up more and more. It is to the credit of the feminist leaders of this country that they have taken up the crusade for this hapless lot also. But it is still a long way off before the practice of spouse-beating can be completely done away with.

It was inevitable that battered husbands would be discovered. Given what we know about violence and violent behaviour, it would have been highly unlikely if there were no women who physically attacked their husbands.

The media in the West have been aware of the problem of family violence for a long time, but they tend to cover the issue piecemeal. As for the media closer to home if they have been aware of it, they have not given themselves away. The sixties, in the West, was the era of the bat-

The survey was conducted in 1976. A representative cross-section of 2,143 American families was interviewed. Approximately half of those interviewed were men and half were women. Studying a topic as sensitive as family violence is quite difficult. After all, you can't simply arrive at a doorstep and ask, "Have you stopped beating your wife?" The survey employed an interview that had been developed over a period of seven years. Each person was asked how she or he dealt with marital conflict, and 18 items were listed as pos-

a warning that the survey on which the estimates of the incidence of husband-beating was based did not ask about or measure the outcome of the specific violent acts. In other words, we knew what husbands and wives did to one another, but we did not know how many husbands or wives were actually injured as a result of the violence. Certainly, one would expect that if a 160-pound, five-foot-ten-inch husband punches his 110 pound, five-foot-two-inch wife, he will do more damage than she (but in the survey they would be record-

context of family violence must be considered. Elizabeth Pleck, Joseph Pleck, Marilyn Grossman, and Pauline Bart, in a critique of Steinmetz's research (published in "Victimology: An International Journal"), point out that while husbands, and wives kill one another with equal frequency, wives are seven times more likely than husbands to murder in self-defense. In my own research I found numerous cases of wives using violence exclusively for self-defense. It is important to note that self-defense can mean more than responding to a violent attack.

# BATTERED HUSBANDS

## A CLASSIC "MAN BITES DOG" STORY

tered child. In the early and mid-seventies, and at the prodding of feminists, the media brought battered wives out of the precinct houses, emergency rooms, psychiatric wards, consciousness-raising groups and the private horror of their bedrooms and kitchens, and into the public eye — although the issue of battered wives was not always received as sympathetically as were the stories about battered babies. Many skeptics assumed that women must "like" this violence, else why didn't they leave? Interestingly, in the late seventies, the media developed a new slant on the issue — battered husbands — a classic "man bites dog" story.

Most of the media "evidence" on the extent of battered husbands was drawn out of context from a national survey of violence in the family done in the U.S. — a survey conducted by professors of sociology Murray A. Straus and Suzanne K. Steinmetz, a company called Response Analysis and Richard Gelles and funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. Steinmetz's study focused on violence between siblings; Straus's on marital violence. Gelles examined the interconnections, as well as violence between parents and children.

sible responses. Seven of these items pertained to acts of physical violence (threw something, pushed, grabbed, or shoved; slapped; kicked, bit or hit with a fist; hit or tried to hit with something; beat up, threatened with a knife or gun; used a knife or gun). Summaries of violence between spouses used two measures.

First, we found that 16 per cent of these couples used at least one of these forms of violence during the previous year. Second, a "severe violence index" was prepared including only those acts that had greatest potential of causing injury (kicked, bit, or hit with a fist; hit or tried to hit with something; beat up, threatened with a knife, or gun; used knife or gun). When the "severe violence index" referred to violence towards women, it was called the "Wife Abuse Index". Although it was never so named, the index, when applied to violence towards men, could have been labelled a "Husband Abuse Index".

If one goes only by the preliminary data\*, it appears that men are at least as likely to be battered as are women. But the case is much more complex.

One glaring omission in the reports on "husband abuse" was

ed as equally violent). Thus, although men and women tend to use the same forms of violence on one another, violent men may well cause more damage than violent women.

There were good reasons not to measure the consequences of violent acts. For one, it was too difficult to measure accurately. Second, from a strict theoretical point of view, it was not worth the energy and time to measure. The study was primarily concerned with violence. We learned in our early studies that the outcomes of violent acts are often determined by chance, luck, aim, or random factors. However, when comparing the rates of "wife abuse" and "husband abuse", it is vital to assess those outcomes.

In the same way, if one were to rely exclusively on the numbers, it would again appear that men and women are equally dangerous in the home. Statistically, about as many men kill their wives as wives kill their husbands. But once more the

### PROTECTIVE REACTIONS

A number of wives used what can be called "protective reaction violence" (named after the unique terminology designed during the Cambodia bombings in 1971). In "protective reaction violence" a wife will strike first (and hard) to protect herself from her husband if she believes she is about to be abused again. Moreover, many women engage in "husband abuse" to protect themselves from potential harm or other degrading or humiliating experiences. Recently, there have been numerous cases of women who have killed their husbands and have pleaded self-defense. One common thread that ran through these accounts was that most of these women were defending themselves from physical or sexual attacks from their husbands.

In most of the 50 states of the U.S.A. a wife cannot file a rape charge against her husband. (The exceptions, as of January 1979, are Oregon, Iowa, Delaware, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. Most recently, a woman in Oregon became the first woman to charge her husband with rape.

The husband was found innocent. According to the Women's Rights Law Reporter, nine States allow wives who are separated or have filed for divorce to file charges of rape against husbands.) Legally, it would seem that a husband can do anything he wants to his wife sexually, so long as he does not leave broken bones or whip marks. The structure of the law means that women are faced with either submitting to any and all sexual demands, or trying to defend themselves as best as they can.

A minor problem with the estimates of husband and wife abuse grew out of the commonly held belief that men were reluctant to acknowledge they were abused by their wives, that husband abuse was the most under-reported crime in the nation. In terms of reports to police, that may be true, but in terms of men being willing to discuss their own experience with violence, such is not the case. In fact, the survey of physical violence in the American family found that men are more likely to report their own victimization than are women. When men were asked if they were victims of severe violence, 4.9 percent said yes. When women were asked if they abused their husbands, 4.2 percent said yes. In terms of violence that could be considered wife abuse, 4 percent of the women said they were abused while 3.4 percent of the husbands acknowledged committing severe acts of violence.

There are a number of possible reasons for these discrepancies, but one is that men, being in a superior position in the family and society are perhaps less humiliated by being hit and are more likely to admit it than their wives. Another possible reason is that women, tragically, are more likely (in our society) to accept violence against themselves as "normal". One thing is for sure: the estimates of the extent of husband abuse have to be considered somewhat biased by the different willingness of men and women to remember and report violence in the home.

Focusing on numbers is only one trap that keeps people from coming to grips with the real issues of marital violence. Another is the use of the term "abused". Abuse is not a scientific term, it is a political term. Beyond the measurable questions of who does what to whom, how often, and with what consequences, the real issue is the social, political, and legal context of the violence. This becomes a question of victimization. When men hit women and women hit men, the

real victims are almost certainly going to be the women.

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## FAMILY VIOLENCE

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The study of family violence is relatively new. Serious research on domestic violence has been going on for less than a decade. But much of what passes for knowledge is actually stereotypic thinking. Our national survey of family violence uncovered an abundance of detailed and surprising information that is needed to illuminate the patterns of marital violence.\*

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## THE SURVEY ON WHICH THE ESTIMATES OF HUSBAND BEATING WAS BASED DID NOT QUESTION OR MEASURE THE OUTCOME OF THE SPECIFIC VIOLENT ACTS. THUS, ALTHOUGH MEN AND WOMEN TEND TO USE THE SAME METHODS, VIOLENT MEN MAY CAUSE MORE DAMAGE THAN VIOLENT WOMEN

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For example, two of the more common bits of conventional wisdom about domestic violence are: (1) violence is found in all social groups, and (2) violence is confined to specific types of people — psychopaths, poor people, or blacks.

The study did, in fact, find violence in all types of social groups. **No one group, whether geographic, economic, or age, was free of marital violence.** But the violence is not equally distributed — some families were more likely to be violent than others. The researchers do not believe, nor can it be proved, that only people with personality disorders are violent. On the contrary, the research has shown that personality disorders are not the causes of family violence.

The examination found the highest rates of marital violence among the following: families living in large urban areas, minority racial groups, individuals with no religious affiliation, people with some high school education, families with low incomes, blue-collar workers, people under 30, and families where the husband was unemployed. (These findings, however, must be interpreted with caution — each one requires a more detailed explanation that can be provided here — for instance, high rates of violence among minority racial groups are probably more due to economic than to racial factors.)

Our examination also revealed that families with four to six children had the highest rates of violence. Furthermore, the greater stress a couple experienced, the more violent they were. Last, in homes where husbands and wives shared family decisions, the rate of violence was the lowest.

Examining the social context and social consequences of marital violence, one finds that **irrespective of the kind of hitting that goes on, women are much more likely to get the worst of it.** In many cases of marital violence women are physically helpless. They are smaller, less likely to be

bands. But the real issue is that the social position of women in the family and society makes them much more vulnerable to violence.

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## THE SINS OF THE PARENTS

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Beyond the debate over battered husbands is the issue of the violent family. Millions of our families are time bombs of violence because they teach their members that one can, and often should, hit loved ones. Research on child abuse has shown that each year as many as 2 million children are physically battered by their parents. Research has also demonstrated that if a child is exposed to violence in the home and is the victim of parental violence, that child is quite likely — as much as 1,000 times more likely than a child raised in a nonviolent home — to grow up and use violence against a child or spouse. An Associated Press wire service report released in August, 1978, discussed the latest form of abuse — parent abuse. The story presented cases of teenage children beating and killing their parents. Again, this should not be a surprise. If a small boy grows up being hit by his parents and sees his mother hit by his father, one could expect that by the time he was a teenager, he would have learned that hitting was an accepted part of family relations. Many a battered wife has divorced her violent husband only to be the victim of her teenage children's violence.

Is there anything that can be done about family violence? Can the pattern of violence being passed from generation to generation be broken?

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## ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM

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The most important first step in coping with the problem of family violence is to protect the victims. In August 1976, when Ms. devoted a cover story to battered wives, there were perhaps 20 operating shelters in the United States (as opposed to 90 in Great Britain). Today, there could well be as many as 250 (no one really can keep accurate track, and the number grows each day). Compared to three years ago, 250 shelters is a great improvement. But consider that there are some 2 million battered wives in need of help, and then 250 shelters is

Continued on page 35

Later, when Sanjiv was telephoning his office, Reena wandered about the house. She learned that Suma and her husband, Lee, managed it. There was a part-time gardener, and Suma did the cooking. There were three bedrooms, including a guest-room, which she, Reena, was going to have as her own. Suma showed her the room, smiling at the delighted gasp that came from Reena as she surveyed the adorable pink and white bedroom with a comfortable bed in the centre. Two long windows were invitingly open and Reena saw that she had a direct view of the garden.

Dinner was served in a short while. It was a light-hearted, companionable affair with Sanjiv at his humorous best. He asked about her parents, she wanted to know about the lovely city they were in, so it continued till late in the night. By mutual consent they had decided to go to his study after dinner. As the hours ticked by, Reena noticed that Sanjeev often rubbed a hand across his forehead frowningly. Sensitive to his every mood and gesture, she asked if he had a headache. Ruefully nodding his head, he said, "Tension telling at last. This last week has been unusually hectic."

Knowing how he hated taking pills of any sort, she offered, "Would you like me to press your head for a while?" For answer he stretched out on the couch where they were sitting and before she could move, put his head on her lap and said with a sigh, "Go ahead."

Tentatively at first, but gradually with growing tenderness, she pressed his forehead. Smoothing out gently the furrows caused by the pain, she ran her fingers over his closed eyes touching the tiny lines around them with feather-soft fingers. Slowly, she watched the tension leave his face and listened to his even breathing with a sense of pleasure. She sat like that for perhaps an hour, and then gently placed his head on a cushion and tiptoed out of the room.

When Reena awoke the next morning, sunlight was streaming through the open windows of the room. It was a gorgeous golden morning, and it was with a pleasurable sense of anticipation and exhilaration that she dressed for breakfast. Sanjiv had already breakfasted when she entered the dining-room. He met her just near the door and turned on her a smile so irresist-

## PART II

# A MATTER OF DESTINY

Rashida Malik

table that she felt her heartbeat quicken.

"Lovely morning, lovely girl," he commented smilingly. She saw that he had his briefcase with him and was obviously going to the office. As she turned away, he caught her by the arm, dropped a quick kiss on her cheek and said softly, "Thanks for last night," and walked away.

She sought out Suma and began chatting with her. As she and Suma talked, Reena became aware of the deep affection and

intense loyalty Sanjeev inspired in all those who came into contact with him. She learned about the parties he frequently hosted, about his special women friends, most of whom Suma didn't approve of, and of his colleagues. She began to understand his withdrawn silences of gloom and depression, his ruthless crushing of opposition, his almost compulsive need to win, and contrasted it with the side she knew of him — a gentle, protective side, and wondered about the complexity of his cha-



racter. Her mind whirled with the enormity of the task she had taken upon herself and knew at that moment that his suspicions needed to be overcome with love and loyalty.

Later, she stepped out into the sunstreaked morning to explore the city. Keeping her bearings in mind, Reena found herself immersed in a sea of colourful, enthusiastic shoppers, workers and others. At one moment she was staring into the sophisticated shops and at the next, blinking appreciatively at some gigantic building. The day sped by on magic wings. Reluctantly she dragged herself away from the hypnotic charm of the shopping centre and went home. Home . . . how naturally it came to her! She thought. Sanjiv's home. . . her home. . .

In the days that followed, Reena made herself familiar with the neighbourhood and made a number of new friends. Essentially a friendly person, she mixed quickly with girls and boys of almost all ages. Yet, even when she was fully occupied with the many things there were to do and see, when she was with Sanjiv the whole world

seemed to blot out — there were just the two of them.

Knowing his every mood and feeling had not dimmed in any way her love for him. A proud, independent individual, he did not allow himself to display weakness or sentiment. It was only rarely that she glimpsed the softer side of Sanjiv, the longing on his face when he thought he was alone. It was on these occasions that she ached to throw aside restraint and

to wear and wouldn't know what to do at a formal dinner party. She would help Suma with the arrangements, so couldn't she stay away from the guests?

Firmly sweeping aside all her objections he said, "Nonsense, come with me." With that he pulled her to her feet and before she knew what was happening, he bundled her into his car and drove swiftly out of the gates.

## WITH A SUPERHUMAN EFFORT, SHE CONTROLLED THE URGE TO SLAP HIS LEERING FACE AND STORM OUT. "PLAYTHING" INDEED! SHE PUSHED HIM ASIDE ROUGHLY, TEARS PRICKING HER EYELIDS

take him in her arms and soothe him with tenderness and love. But any sentiment resembling pity, she knew, would be harshly rejected by him.

He treated her with friendliness, telling her about his business problems and frustrations, but sometimes withdrew so completely that an invisible barrier seemed to be formed between them.

One evening, as was her habit, she was sitting in the rose garden when Sanjiv joined her. He smiled and told her he was inviting a few people for dinner the following evening.

"Will you please be my hostess? You're much too attractive to hide away under Suma's apron and I want to show you off!"

Nervously she protested, saying she hadn't anything suitable

"Where are we going?" she asked. A brief smile was the only reply she got.

When he stopped the car, she saw that they were in an extremely busy and affluent part of the city. Passively she allowed him to lead her through a heavy throng of people to a large, fashionable dress-shop. As she realized his intention, she tried to withdraw her hand from his and said, "No, you can't, I won't let you."

He paid no attention but led her through the shop to where an attentive saleswoman was standing. Crisply he told her, "A couple of long dresses for this young lady, some shirts, jeans and — er — whatever she needs."

Reena stared dumbfounded as he strolled away casually to inspect a fabulous halter-neck gown displayed in the showcase.

The beaming saleswoman was showing her a bewildering number of dresses, shirts and night-wear at which she could only blink worldlessly. In a daze, she heard Sanjiv say, "We'll take this, and that, and that . . ." An hour later they staggered out, their arms loaded with boxes of various shapes and sizes.

When they were sitting in the car once more, she turned on him furiously. "What do you mean by all this? I don't need them, for heaven's sake! How dare you treat me like . . ." Here she was stopped by a silencing hand.

Looking straight at her, he told her quietly, "Reena, I did not mean to insult you, it was just a small way of saying thank you. Thank you for being here. I've

been like a bear with a sore head these past few weeks. Forgive me?"

The irresistible smile was switched on again and she found herself responding automatically. "Of course, but . . ." "Good". He switched on the engine and concentrated on the traffic. She looked at him helplessly. What did one do in such circumstances, she wondered. Her anger over his action had disappeared, and involuntarily her face softened as she thought of the contents of the parcels. How gorgeous they were!

Next day, Reena and Suma were busy most of the time, arranging things with care. Sanjiv kept out of their way and they were free to arrange the hall to their liking. When evening drew near, Reena went eagerly to her room and surveyed the dress on the bed with pleasure. Excitement tingled through her as she thought of Sanjiv seeing her in her swirling chiffon maxi.

Cheeks tinged pink and eyes bright with pleasure, she made her way to the hall. The look in Sanjiv's eyes made her feel amply rewarded for the trouble she had taken over her appearance.

Sanjiv's guests were mostly executives and some had come with their wives. As her nervousness died away, Reena began to enjoy herself immensely.

Later in the evening, however, something happened to mar her enjoyment. She was standing a little apart from the party when a man ambled across to her. She had seen him look at her speculatively several times during the evening. From his flushed face and slightly unsteady gait, she guessed that he had had too many drinks. Looking around for Sanjiv, she saw him at the other end of the room talking with a few of his friends.

The man was blocking her way, so she smiled at him politely. "Come," he said, "let's go out for a stroll in the garden." She declined his invitation coldly, but he was not to be shaken off easily. Stepping close to her he hissed, "Aw, come on, I'm sure the great man won't miss his pretty little plaything for a little while. He's quite generous with his possessions."

With a superhuman effort, she controlled the urge to slap his leering face and storm out. She pushed him aside roughly and went across to Sanjiv, who smiled at her, apparently having noticed nothing amiss.

Continued on page 50

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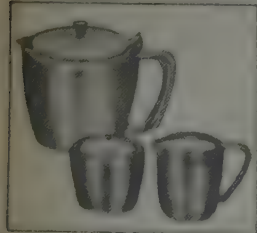
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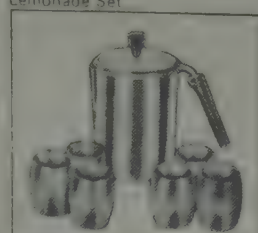
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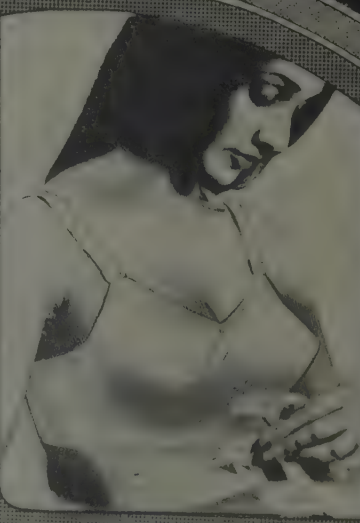
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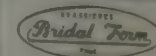
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# BEAUTY

The basis of lasting good looks is regular and thorough care of skin. Before planning your skin care routine, you should know something about skin which is a very complex structure. Four things affect it: genetics, environment, age and care. It invariably responds well to treatment.

The skin has three main layers: the epidermis, the dermis and the subcutaneous. The outer layer gives protection by sealing in the fluids of the body and keeping out potentially harmful elements. The inner layer nourishes and supplies it with moisture. The subcutaneous layer consists of fatty tissues below the dermis which gives smoothness and contour to the body, and also acts as a protective cushion for the outer skin.

Moisture is vital for the preservation of the softness and suppleness of the skin. Lack of moisture affects the top layer which becomes dull and lifeless. Exposure to intense heat or cold or the use of drying make-up or soaps can dehydrate the skin, therefore, moisture is very important. The sebaceous glands in the dermis secrete sebum which help to form oil. They can occasionally become over-active due to the presence of a hormone or due to emotional disturbance. Acne can result from this condition.

For a healthy skin, you require a nutritious diet, plenty of water, fresh air, exercise, sleep and minimum stress. It needs to be protected against sun, wind and cold. Excessive fat and sugar, too many stimulants like tea, coffee are bad for skin; so is excessive smoking and alcohol.

Weight fluctuations should be avoided as they are the prime cause of a wrinkled skin as also dryness. Vitamin C is essential for healthy skin. Fruits especially citrus fruits (lime, orange, lemon, grapefruit) and green vegetables are its sources. Milk and fresh vegetables are also vital for a healthy skin.

Every skin is highly individual having its own characteristics and can be divided into the following four groups.

**Oily skin:** It is shiny with coarse texture and has open pores.

Spots or even acne may appear on the chin, cheeks and forehead in this type of skin. Oily skin is caused by overproduction of sebum by the oil glands. Too enthusiastic a treatment with harsh soaps or cleansing lotions will often cause dehydration, leaving the skin in a flaky condition.

**Dry skin:** This type of skin is flaky and dull-looking. Dry skin becomes red and sore in cold weather. However spots appear rarely. Dehydration and insufficient oil secretion cause dryness. It chaps and peels easily and even at an early age may show wrinkles and lines, particularly around the eyes and mouth. Use of wrong cosmetics, strong

early in life. Pimples may appear on the greasy areas. This can be a troublesome type of skin since it combines the worst features of both dry and oily skins. The dry and oily areas have to be treated separately.

**Normal skin:** This type of skin is ideal but rare. It does not have enlarged pores or dead cells. There may be occasional pimples, just before menstruation, when increased hormonal activity causes the sebaceous glands to be over-active. It has a tendency to become dry with time, so regular moisturizing will help to slow down the dry-

## FOR A HEALTHY SKIN



soaps, exposure to sun and wind, indoor heating and air-conditioning contribute to this condition. The lack of natural oils must be compensated by rich external lubrication.

**Combination skin:** This type of skin has dry as well as oily patches. The skin on the cheekbones is dry and flaky and the forehead is often greasy, so is the area of the chin.

The eye area is dryish and fine lines may appear there quite

ing process.

The steps for a good skin are cleansing, moisturising and conditioning. Ageing of skin is a gradual process, but it can be slowed down within limits. Regardless of how much care is given, minor structural changes will eventually occur, but the more serious problems are caused by neglect and abuse.



## IS ACNE YOUR PROBLEM?

A skin that shows infected eruptions is a serious beauty hazard and deserves immediate attention. An oily skin is more prone to acne. The sebaceous glands secreting excess oil plug the pores resulting in whiteheads/blackheads. The clogged pores become an ideal breeding place for germs, get infected, and result in pimples.

Faulty diet, constipation, lack of proper rest and irregular menstrual problems are some of the contributing factors.

Cleanse your face three-four times a day with warm water and a medicated soap. Scrub well so that the plugs are dislodged and rinse well. Pat dry, then dab your face with a healing lotion.

Never prick pimples and if you squeeze them, there is the risk of the infection spreading.

Also avoid any oil-based cosmetics as this will further aggravate the condition. It is best to avoid any make-up when affected with acne, but if you must, use medicated preparations. And always remove stale make-up before applying a fresh one. Never use soiled powder puffs and those belonging to someone else. Sterilised cottonwool pads are best.

Diet is important. Have a balanced diet including lots of fresh fruits and vegetables and drink plenty of water. Eliminate fats and fried foods from your diet and cut down on sweets, chocolates and nuts. Keep your system clean and if you are constipated Isabgol will help. Stir a little in a glass of milk and take it before you go to bed at night.

For a healthy complexion, exercise in the open and have a regular eight-hour sleep. This will improve and stimulate blood circulation.

Abha Oberoi

Rafna

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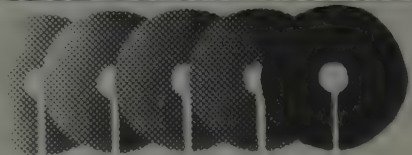
If on the other hand you've collected a nice round sum like 5, 10, 15 or 20 thousand rupees in your savings account, what are you waiting for, put it in State Bank's Fixed Deposit or Reinvestment Plan. Rs. 10,000 in a 63 months' Fixed Deposit will put Rs. 82.64 in your hands every month as interest. The amount deposited will of course remain intact. Whereas the same sum in a Reinvestment Plan will bring you, hold your breath, a breath-taking Rs. 26,855 at the end of 120 months.

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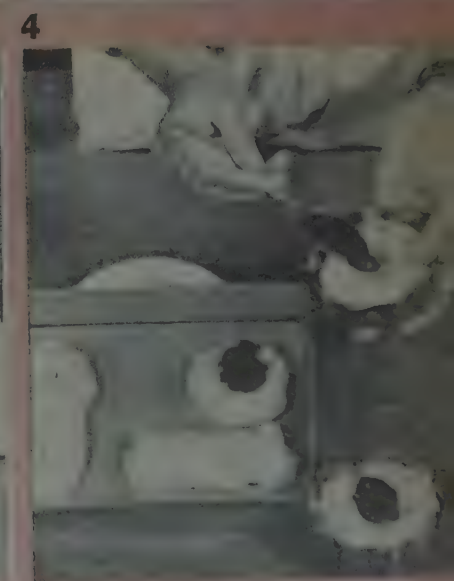
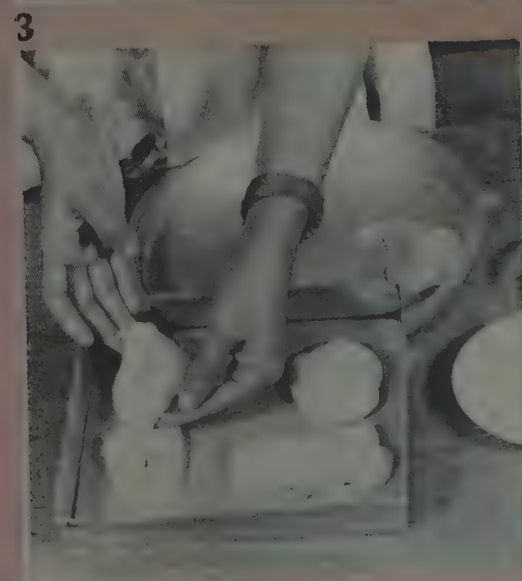
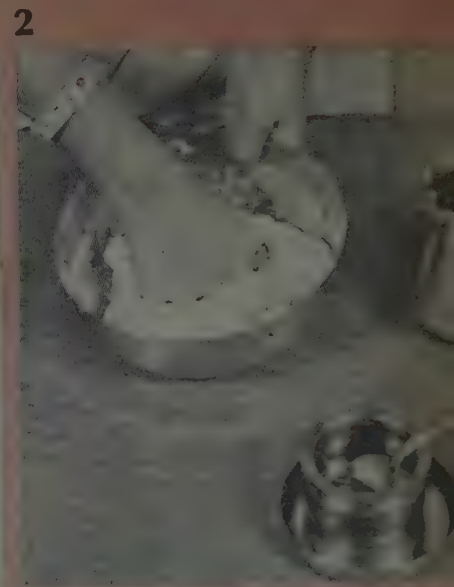
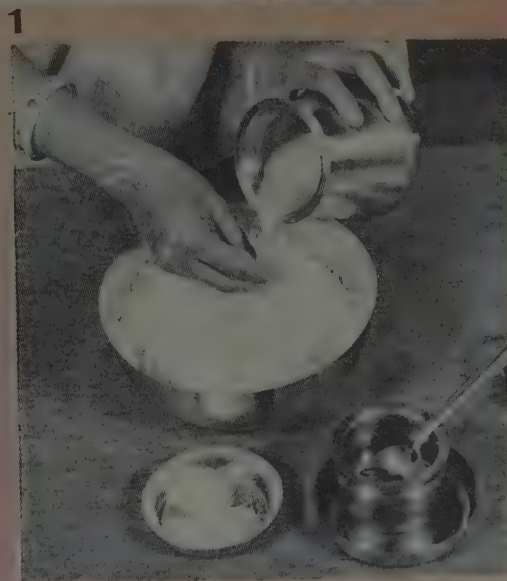
and cover the container well. Now transfer this container into a larger container. Keep aside for twelve to fifteen hours to ferment. After full fermentation, remove the puff formation along with water and discard the dal and potato. Use the puff in your bread preparation. Fresh yeast may be used instead.

1. Mix the flour with egg and yeast puff.
2. Knead into a soft and pliable dough. Leave aside to rise.
3. When well risen, divide the dough into twelve equal balls. Mix jam with tutti fruity. The balls can be plaited up if desired.
4. Make a depression in the centre of each ball. Fill the centres with jam and tutti fruity. Brush with melted butter, sprinkle with cinnamon and powdered sugar. Leave to rise. Bake for twenty to twenty-five minutes in a preheated hot oven.

## STEP-BY-STEP COOKERY

# HAWAIIAN BUNS

A quick recipe for sweet buns to serve kids for an evening snack. Follow MALATI KARWARKAR'S and JYOTSNA PADMAKAR'S step by step instructions for successful bun-making.



2 cups flour; 1 egg; 1 tbsp. melted butter; 4 tbsps. tutti fruity; 4 tbsps. melted raspberry jam; ½ tsp. cinnamon powder; 1 tsp. sugar, powdered.

tsp. sugar; 1 tbsp. black gram dal; 1 medium potato, sliced.

### FOR THE YEAST PUFF :

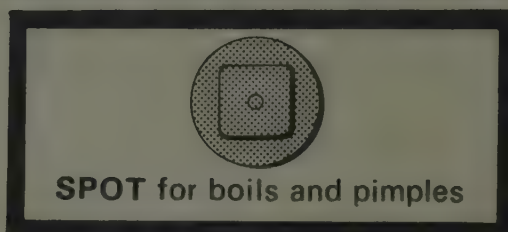
Put all the ingredients in a deep container. Boil two cups of water and pour over the ingredients. Close

### FOR THE YEAST PUFF :

½ cup Bengal gram dal; 1

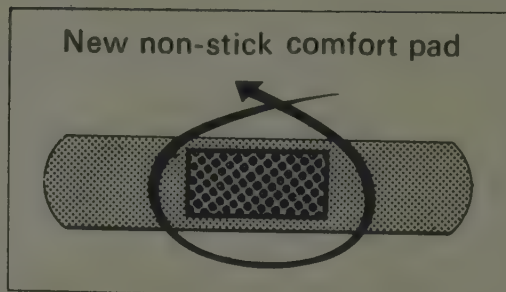
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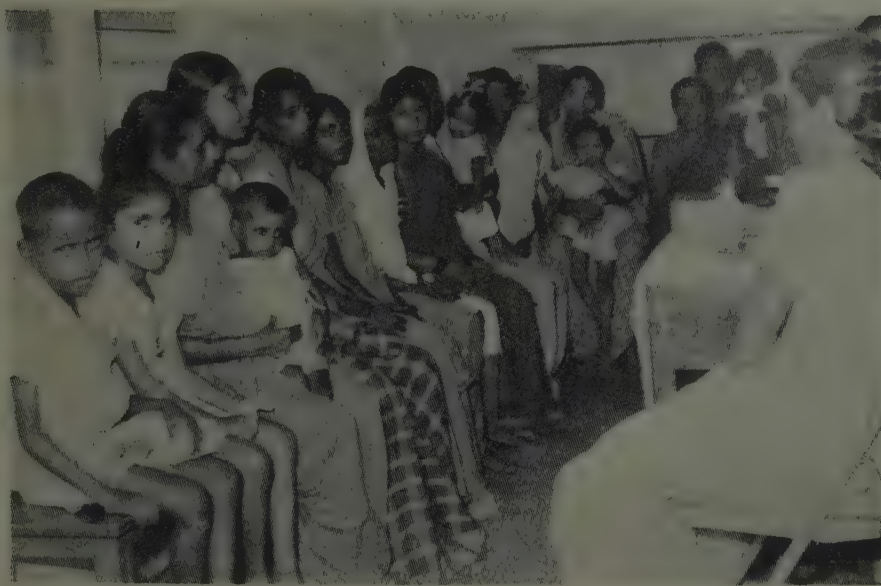
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# MOTIVATING WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES

Home Science, Family Planning and Nutrition programmes are some of the activities carried out by "Streehitakarini", an organisation working in the slums of Bombay

Mira Savara



Women of the slum seen at the Family Planning Clinic. RIGHT: Nutrition classes are held in the clinic regularly. BELOW: A Handicraft class for children in progress.

do something. At first there is a lot of enthusiasm, but after a few months they just vanish. All our time and energy were wasted. So if you want to start something, be sure that you will stay long enough.'

"A clinic was started and was open twice a week. The activities of the organisation grew fast. There are so many inter-related problems in this area. The children are malnourished. Often it is not due to poverty but a lack of adequate knowledge. So we started nutrition classes. There are absolutely no recreational facilities in this area. So the children get into trouble and cause trouble. So we started a Preventive Juvenile Delinquency Centre where some games like carrom, etc. were provided in a room. Outdoor games were also started.

"We also realised that we can't expect people to come to us. So we decided that we will go to them, and home visits were started as a regular part of the programme in 1968. Over a period of ten years our activities have grown to 18 items and include sewing classes, educational exhibitions, immunisation,

The place of the meeting is a 10ft. x 10 ft. room at the entrance of one of the slums near the Bombay Dyeing Mills near Parel. The floor has been swept clean, chatais are spread on the floor. A table and a chair are placed on one side.

Fifteen women, their ages ranging from fourteen to fifty, are sitting around. Some have brought their children, some elder kids look after infants on the kutchra road entering the slum. The women have gathered to listen to a talk by Dr. Parikh, who is to tell them about how diseases start, and what are the preventive measures they can take. The talk is part of a 25-lecture series which covers topics like nutrition, health, the female body, child care.

These group meetings are an essential part of the work carried out by "Streehitakarini", a charitable women's organisation which is working in the slums of Bombay.

"In 1962, Home Science classes were started for middle-class women in Marathi with the aim of training them to become better housewives. The topics included savings, schools, health care, cooking, etc." said Dr. Parikh, president of the organisation.

"The classes were extremely popular. Being a housewife in a



city like Bombay is not simple. A woman needs new skills which she may not have learnt when she was a child. Some of us who thought of this problem started Streehitakarini in 1964.

"The beginning was difficult. At a meeting where women from a slum in Bombay got together with the organisers to discuss what the organisers could do, the women were openly hostile.

"Are you going to stay here for over five years?" they asked. "If you are, then we will try and cooperate. So many organisations come. Say they will

nutrition for children, a TB clinic, films, a library, a book bank, a pathological laboratory, gynaecological and infertility clinics, kindergarten classes, dental clinics and a savings programme."

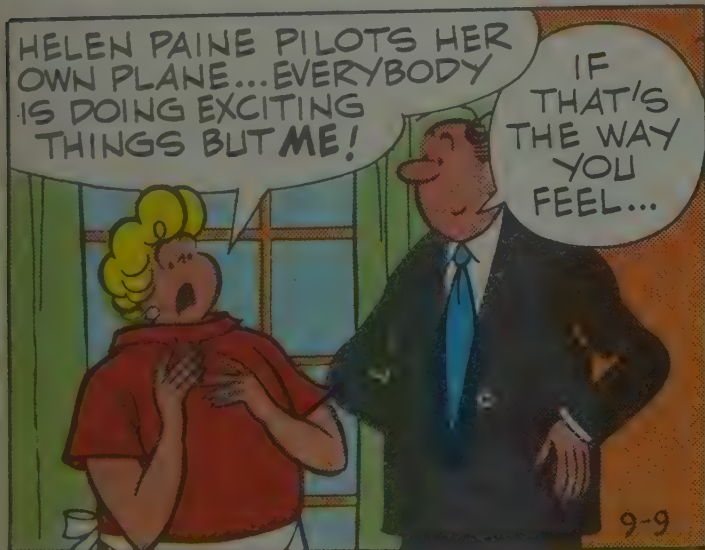
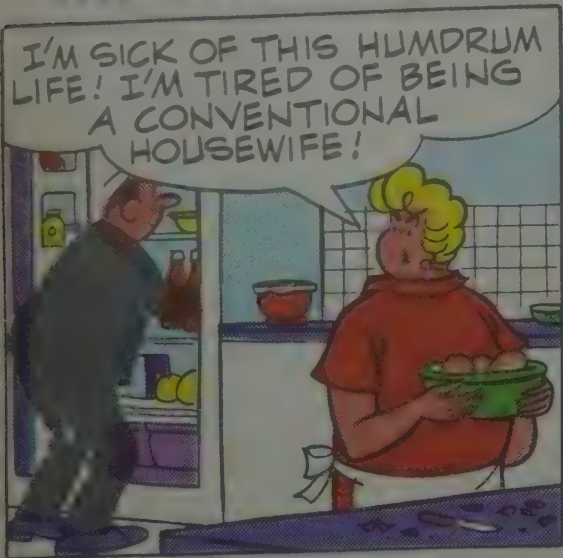
One would imagine a huge office to manage all these activities. But actually, it is housed in a tumble down room barely 300 square feet at the back of the Congress House in Dadar, overflowing with files, educational material, desks, benches and chairs. The administrative staff

Continued on page 25



# THE LITTLE WOMAN

by Don Tobin



A perfectionist is a person who takes great pains, and gives even greater pains to others.

Husband: "I saw Suresh Mehta downtown today, but he ignored me. I guess since he came into money he thinks I'm not his equal."

Wife: "Why, that conceited good-for-nothing moron! You certainly are his equal."

The young man was applying for a job, and the personnel manager asked him, "Do you drink?"

"No, Sir."

"Do you smoke?"

"No Sir."

"Do you have affairs with girls?"

"No sir."

"Don't you have any vices at all?"

"Well," he replied, "I do have one vice. I tell lies."

**THAT'S A LAUGH!**

It's the little things that matter. What good is a bath tub without a plug?

Mary had a little lamb,  
With lots of pork and beans  
and jam;  
And ice cream soda full of  
fizz —



And oh, how sick our Mary is.

"Your husband has a new suit."

"No, he hasn't."

"Well, something's different."

"It's a new husband."

Friend: "Did you get any replies to your advertisement that a lonely woman sought light and warmth in her life?"

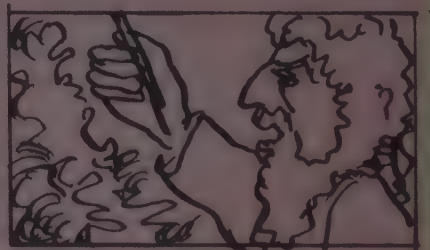
Spinster: "Yes, two from electric companies and one from a gas company."

Auntie: "When I was a child, I was told that if I made ugly faces, I would stay like that."

Little Girl: "Well, Auntie you can't say you weren't warned."

A Kansan asked for a small map of Texas at a Houston stationery store.

"Sir," replied the salesman with disdainful pride, "there is no such thing as a small map of Texas."



Ever since the Ten Commandments, legislators have been passing millions of laws trying to enforce them.

A man who had seen De Mille's movie was asked if he believed the biblical story about the parting of the Red Sea for Moses and the ancient Hebrews.

"I certainly do," he declared. "If De Mille can do it, God can do it, too."

Compiled by George Fegradoc

It would be great to be in LaVerne's shoes even for a day. She is one girl who has always got what she wanted out of life. She has a millionaire father. She sings, she dances. She models. She wins beauty and talent contests. And she's an actress. She's done a number of films for Hollywood and Television. What's more, she is Muhammad Ali's (THE GREATEST) special girl-friend! And to top it all, looks-wise, she's a stunner — standing five feet and seven inches tall minus the five-inch heels she generally wears, plus an olive complexion.

LaVerne Theresa Hall was in India recently to shoot for a Hindi-English film called "Suraag" (The Clue)- being made by a Los Angeles based Indian writer-director, Dr. Jagmohan Mundhra. LaVerne Hall and Barbara Terzi are the two Hollywood girls in the bilingual which has an all-Indian cast otherwise. You can be sure LaVerne is tickled to death about the fact that she is the first Black American to appear in a Hindi movie.

"But to be honest," says LaVerne in that husky voice which has sent many a male chasing rainbows, "this wonderful opportunity to come to India has excited me more than the role itself. Though of course, acting in a Hindi movie is a very unusual and exciting experience for me. India is a lovely place and Indians are fantastic people, particularly the Sikhs. I have already made up my mind to marry a Sikh."

"Since the day I picked on Guru Govind Singh as my spiritual leader during one of the mind-reading(!) classes I attend back home in Hollywood I have wished for two things: to visit the Poonjab (Punjab) and meet my spiritual guru, and to marry a Sikh."

"I did go to the Poonjab to meet my guru but I couldn't marry a Sikh."

Well, if the term "mind reading" has raised quite a few eyebrows among the readers, wait till you hear about her other weird interests. Besides her special interest in the Sikh religion, LaVerne is also interested in Buddhism, Yoga and Hypnosis — self-hypnosis, she claims, helps a lot in her career as an actress. If you are beginning to wonder if she wears black robes and whizzes past your window on a broom — don't. Because Ms. Hall also has other "normal" hobbies and interests like reading, writing guitar, backgammon, chess, horseback riding, tennis, swimming and Karate.

# LAVERNE T. HALL:

## "I WANT TO MARRY A SIKH"

Merula Furtado



How can a busy Hollywood/Television actress and model find the time to indulge in so many hobbies, one may ask. And smart Ms. Hall has an answer ready to that:

"It isn't really difficult to make time for the things you love doing," she says. "In between work, one has to relax, and relaxing doesn't necessarily mean watching television or gossiping. I relax with my hobbies."

This Ms. Hall certainly is no dumb actress from the West!

LaVerne is quite a linguist too. Besides English, she speaks Spanish, French and Japanese. She was born in Liberty City, Miami but when she was six years old her parents were separated and her mother packed off to Los Angeles with her two daughters where she made a living running a Beauty Parlour. So it was that LaVerne grew up close to the

Hollywood

The apple of her father's eye, LaVerne mostly spends Christmas with pop Charlie Hall who shows her with expensive presents like sleek Thunderbirds which she proudly drives around Hollywood.

Basically a film actress, LaVerne has appeared on stage twice in plays like "Guys And Dolls" and "Stage Door". Her important television credits are — "Love American Style", "It Takes A Thief", "Fame, The Name Of The Game", "Barefoot In The Park" and "Movie Murderer".

Among her movie credits there have been films like Russ Meyer's "Beyond The Valley Of The Dolls", "The Black Gestapo", "Flapping Eagle", "Hammer Smith", "The Lost Man", and "The Great White Hope" in which she featured with James Earl Jones. It was during the making of this last film that LaVerne first encountered THE GREATEST and fell in love with him.

Ali himself was totally enamoured by this Black Beauty who was as brainy and as beautiful as he likes his women to be. But he couldn't do anything about it because he was already married and all he ever got out of their relationship were FIVE THOUSAND KISSES!

How did LaVerne get into Mundhra's bilingual "Suraag"?

It was quite a coincidence really. Dr. Mundhra (or "Jag" as Ms. Hall calls him), was on the look out for a black girl to play a small but important role in his film. This was sometime in mid-1979. Around this time California had its annual "Miss Black America Beauty Pageant" at Los Angeles in which LaVerne participated. Since these Beauty Pageants are generally a launching pad for Hollywood aspirants, they also have a talent contest for the beauties. Hence every contestant has to go on stage and do a bit of mono-acting. When it was LaVerne's turn she decided she'd do a bit of mimicry as she was already known among friends as a good mimic.

"I got carried away and did hilarious take-offs on ten well known people, including Muhammad Ali," she laughed displaying her even, pearly set of teeth. "And the show was being televised."

Needless to say, LaVerne Theresa Hall won the contest in the talent category hands down and was adjudged a runner-up in the Beauty Pageant. Dr. Mundhra who had watched the telecast couldn't help making her an offer, of course. LaVerne couldn't resist the offer.



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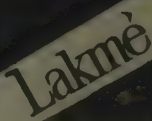


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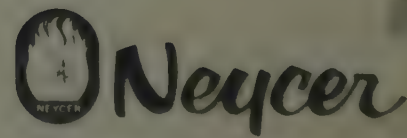
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## CONSULT A COUNSELLOR

I am 21 years old and working in an office. I have fallen in love with a boy of 25 and we have had sex relations. The trouble is that I derive no pleasure or satisfaction but I have not told my boyfriend this. Is there anything wrong with me or my friend? I want to know whether I can conceive. If not, I want to leave him and remain a spinster.

I would like to clear your doubts — there is no connection between orgasm and conception. Babies are conceived every day — even if one or both partners do not experience sexual satisfaction. Therefore you have all chances of bearing children.

If you are in Bombay or Delhi make an appointment with the Family Planning Association SECRET Counselling Centre about your problem. Both of you should go for consultation. It is possible that your partner is inexperienced; the

facilities available are not conducive to a relaxed relationship or there is the anxiety and feeling of guilt as a result of customs, tradition and family background. Have a frank discussion with the boy and see how both of you can solve the problem.

## A PROBLEM OF CHOICE

However, I must draw your attention to the attitudes of society to premarital sex and man's attitude towards marrying a virgin only. It is better, therefore, if you set a date for your marriage as soon as possible, and not allow such a relationship to drag.

## AFRAID OF MARRIAGE

A friend of mine 34 years old refuses to get married. He has this problem of early ejaculation at the first sexual intercourse, but

improves subsequently. Is this serious? Do you think he is impotent and cannot have children? He is shy to go to a doctor for a check-up.

Your friend does not seem to have any physical problem. He has developed unnecessary anxiety

of a situation that occurs with most men when they start sexual intercourse. He should consult a good counsellor.

As regards impotency, there is no relationship between conception and impotency. If the sperms are discharged on the thighs and are able to penetrate the vagina and the womb, conception can occur even without penis penetration.

## SHE IS CONFUSED

I am a working girl of 20. I am a Christian and in love with a Hindu boy. I have had sex with him and was also pregnant. My parents are not in favour of our marriage. Another Hindu widower is deeply in love with me. I love him but not as much as the other boy. I can't decide whom to marry. I am worried because I am not a virgin.

You have certainly complicated your life. It is not too late to discuss your problem with a mature person you trust. Consult a marriage counsellor. Are you prepared to change your religion? Is the man willing to do so? This will help to ease the tension and lead to a happier life for you and your children. But first make your choice giving it serious thought. Don't discuss any of your previous affairs with anyone.

## MOTIVATING WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES

Continued from page 21

sits here. The clinic is a small room on the main road.

The bulk of the programmes is carried out by local women. There are six teams of women who have been assigned to six different areas which encompass several chawls, slums, etc. Each team consists of a team leader and three other women. All the women are part of the slum community. They have been trained in basic health and form a barefoot educational-preventive medical team. They move around the area and organise the activities in the community — group meetings, kindergarten classes, etc. The resources required are kept to the minimum — rooms in the slums are used for meetings, teaching and *balwadis*.

"We began to get acceptance in the area when we successfully treated some cases of infertility in our clinic" Dr. Parikh said. She runs her own clinic in Matunga, but every afternoon she is at the Dadar office doing either administrative work, at the clinic, or giving a lecture.

"Moving around the slums, she continued," we realised how essential it was to promote family planning in the area. The biggest obstacle is superstition. People believe that children are from God, that there should be no human interference. But the fact that we had successfully treated some cases of infertility meant that we knew something, and this made our advice acceptable. So now they come willingly."

The clinic has used various methods — IUDs, fpams, injections, pills, etc. in its family planning programme. "We used *Pepoprovera* — one injection of which prevents conception for about 3-4 months. Women wanted this method, especially if their husband did not want them to practise birth control. Even an IUD can be spotted, while with one injection a woman was safe for some months. But now we cannot use this drug as its import is banned. There has been a hue and cry in countries abroad, especially by women's organisations, that this drug has side effects. It is secretly said to be in mother's milk and the effect on the child is not known. But we've used the drug for years on thousands of women with no side effects."

A question that has been raised by feminist groups abroad has

been the ethics of multinational drug companies using the poor women of third world countries as guinea pigs to develop their products.

"The drugs are given for testing on human subjects only they are proved safe after extensive research on animals," Dr. Parikh said, "and they have also been tested on women abroad, and are tested here only to find out the needs of the Indian population. We maintain a constant check to make sure that the woman using the drug is in good health."

The government and United Nations also use voluntary health organisations which work with the poorer socio-economic groups as research intermediaries.

This forms only a very small part of the organisation's activities and does not detract from the good work that the organisation is carrying on in the area. Almost 60 per cent of the families have accepted some form of family planning.

Also, voluntary health organisations face serious resource problems. There is little governmental and other institutional support, so they have to rely on drug companies which give them drugs free or for some research work, or stop their activities altogether.

"Diaphragms are not being made in India although they are an effective birth control device, especially for older women. Why we don't know." In 1972 we used a film (from Canada), a paper like thing, which contained urea which is a spermicide. This is inserted into the vagina before intercourse. It was going to be manufactured in India, but wasn't. Complain the doctor.

Women in the area certainly accept the organisation and appreciate what it has been doing. At the group discussion, where the doctor explained that illness is caused by germs carried by uncovered food, he asked, "So, if diseases are transmitted by flies which sit on the food, why don't all you women get together and tell the vendor that unless he covers the food with a plastic sheet you won't allow your children to buy from him?"

Streehitakarini is raising money for a small building on land which has been donated to it. For this it needs donations. It also needs clothes, paper, books, etc. It is organising a function on February 16 at Shanmukhananda Hall to raise money for which every public spirited citizen should buy tickets.



**A smart two-piece safari suit in bluish grey made from Ambiking suiting material.**

**A floral printed Ambiprincess dress material turned into a gorgeous halter evening gown with a tie-up at waist.**

**Checks are always so popular — a shirt with an open collar teamed with contrast coloured trousers from Ambiking suiting.**

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The great new casuals are here — ideal for teenagers whether on a job, at campus or out jogging. They're comfortable, easy to wear and easily manageable. Beautifully styled with elegant trimmings and extra details for that timeless classic quality. Here's a round up of the latest in casual styles both for men and women in new prints, and sarees from pale and interesting to bright and cheerful colour combinations.

Outfits modelled at the Ambiscope Fashion Show organised by Eve's Weekly in association with Shri Ambica Mills.

Photographs : Teiyeb Badesheh

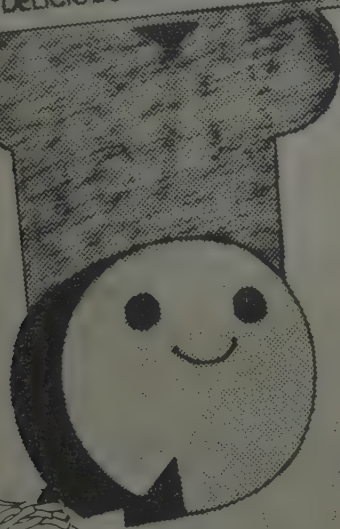
**RIGHT: Be demurely elegant in these Ambiqueen sarees. Bold flowers and striking, colourful borders accentuate the pallav and edge of the sarees.**

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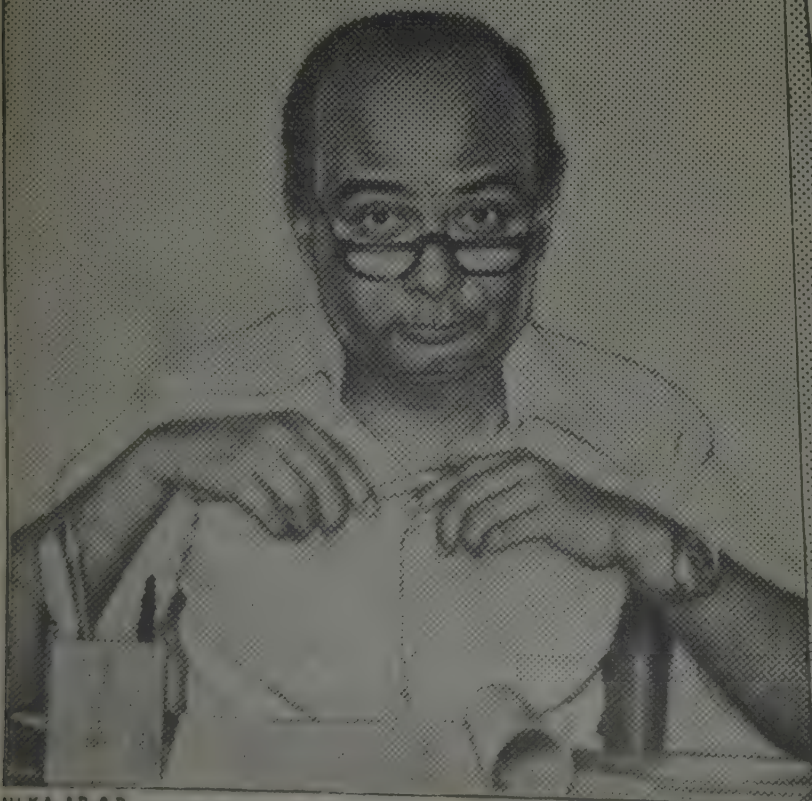
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# AMERICAN WOMEN: SEEKING freedom of enterprise

Mary Sulalian has never forgotten how her professor used to say that "babies and business take nine months from inception." Indeed, her discount brokerage firm took several months before turning over a profit.

Dona O'Bannon had a similar experience. But her firm, founded four years ago, is well established now. She could serve as a model of a successful business woman. She is young, attractive and fashionably dressed. Her spacious office is tastefully and expensively furnished. A graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Washington, D.C., she worked for 11 years for a member of the U.S. Congress. This experience led her to establish a government-consulting and public affairs firm in Washington. In addition, she serves as voluntary president of an organization, based in the U.S. capital, that helps women achieve financial independence.

Says O'Bannon:

"The National Association of Women Business Owners was formed to serve the professional needs and interests of the woman business owner. We are here to first identify the woman business owner in this country. We are here to help her solve any problems she might have; to join together as women entrepreneurs; to seek any legislation or any other necessary means to accomplish our goal which is to be more successful in business."

The number of female-owned businesses in the United States has more than doubled since 1972, now numbering almost one million. Businessmen always have had the advantage of important contacts and referrals through their all-male social-business clubs. Women needed similar opportunities, and the National Association of Women Business Owners helped to fill this need.

Comments O'Bannon:

"It was first created in the mid-1970s in Washington by a group of about 14 enterprising women entrepreneurs who simply found each other and shared each other's problems and interests, and realized after our first major article in "The New York Times" after 4,000 or 5,000 inquiries from all over the country, there was

certainly a need for joining together as a national group. We have at this time about 450 members nationwide. We now have chapters in nine cities in the United States and we will probably have another 10 to 12 with-

O'Bannon remarks:

"Under a pilot project grant from Equitable in 1976, we compiled a directory of women owned businesses in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area of over 1,200 women-owned firms,

Usually they work in a chosen field for a few years, gain expertise and then decide to go into business for themselves. Often older women, who were housewives and mothers for years and maybe never completed their education, find job opportunities limited. They were accustomed to being on their own at home and didn't want a low level regimented job. They seek the freedom of their own enterprise. The Small Business administration of the U.S. Government reports that in the first eight months of 1977 more than 63,000 women attended its training programmes.

Says O'Bannon:

"I find it very satisfying to be one's own boss. I find that when you make mistakes, they are yours, and when you have great successes, they are yours, and you have no one else to blame or praise. I would find it very difficult to work for someone else, though of course in serving our clients we work for them."

It used to be difficult for women to obtain bank loans to start businesses or find credit later for growth. In 1974 the U.S. Congress passed the Equal Credit Opportunity Act Amendment and things improved. Another problem often faced by women in business is that of credibility in what had been a man's world.

O'Bannon comments:

"Very few men in the business world or in the political world tend to take women seriously in such areas as banking and tax matters . . . . However, I found, that if you present your case in a very logical, sensible way, and if you know your subject matter, you will gain their respect by that alone."

The National Association of Women Business Owners provides monthly meetings, valuable information by experts, workshops and seminars on business operations, business contacts and referrals, and a monthly newsletter. Now it is trying to establish ties with similar organizations throughout the world. Contacts have already been established with the leaders of women in business in West Germany, France, Britain and India.

**Alina Zeranski**

in the next year. We are supported by, first, membership dues; secondly by government or any other type of grants or contracts and thirdly by corporate sustaining memberships."

Many government programmes are aimed now towards assisting women in business by giving them suitable contracts. Large American corporations also find it profitable to support women business owners' associations. For instance, the Equitable Life Assurance Society wanted to have a nationwide listing of women-owned firms to contract them for goods and services and to offer them insurance policies.

which is one of the principal objectives of this association."

About half the women owners of businesses, inherited them from their families or husbands. But in recent years women are increasingly striking out on their own, starting businesses from scratch. They are also moving away from the traditional retail and service firms and entering such male-dominated fields as chemical corporations, auto body shops or home improvement supplies. Many go into manufacturing because it's more profitable.

# THE EYE-CATCHERS



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INGREDIENTS: THE Right Way

# SUGAR

*Passimila Lal*

Photograph: Tatyeb Baddeh

Most of our dessert and pastry preparations are done with this main ingredient — sugar refined or unrefined. Usually, when a recipe calls for sugar, this normally means granulated or all-purpose sugar which is a refined, medium sized crystal. Powdered or castor sugar is a finer grind of the granulated, which dissolves rapidly when put over fruit salads and in cold drinks. Best for caramels and syrups. Icing or confectioner's sugar is made from sugar crystals, ground to a fine powder. In order to avoid lump formation, it is mixed with a small amount of calcium phosphate. Ideal for icing cakes and meringues. Never substitute icing sugar for granulated sugar in baking. Brown or Barbados is a purified form of raw cane sugar in a fine crystal form. Best used for barbecue sauces, meat dishes, spiced cakes and chutneys. Sugar lumps are granulated crystals moulded into cubes which come in handy at parties and picnics and best in hot drinks. Preserving sugar is a refined large crystal, ideal for preserved marmalades and jams. Recipes below suggest the right sugar and the best way to use it.

## ICE CREAM WITH APRICOT SAUCE

- 3 egg yolks
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup whipped cream
- ½ cup dried apricots, soaked
- 2 tbsps. lemon juice
- 3 tbsps. rum
- ¾ cup brown sugar

Combine one cup sugar, salt, egg yolks and milk. Cook over low heat. When the mixture begins to boil, remove and cool. Pour mixture into ice trays. Freeze for an hour. Empty contents into a bowl and beat until creamy. Fold in cream and return to the ice tray. Freeze until firm. Meanwhile, combine apricots with one cup water and bring to a boil. Simmer for half-an-hour.

Sieve to a puree. Combine with the sugar, lemon juice and little water. Cook over medium heat. Cool and refrigerate. Just before serving, stir in the rum. Serve over the ice cream.

## WALNUT MARZIPANS

- 500 grams icing sugar
- 500 grams shelled walnuts, halved
- ½ tin condensed milk
- Dash of vanilla essence
- ½ cup soft butter

Rub icing sugar and butter together gently with fingertips. Add the condensed milk and knead the mixture into a stiff dough. Add the vanilla and knead. Roll small balls from the dough about one inch in diameter. Grease a marble top table or a tray and place the marzipan balls on it. Press a walnut half into each ball.

## SHAHI TUKRI

- 12 slices bread
- ½ litre milk
- 250 grams sugar
- Ghee
- ½ tsp. saffron
- 1 tsp. essence
- 250 grams khoya
- 10 green cardamoms
- 4 silver leaves
- 30 grams almonds, chopped (optional)
- 15 grams pistachios, chopped
- 4 cherries, chopped

Cut rectangular pieces of bread, remove the hard crust and fry in ghee till golden brown. Remove from ghee. Boil milk with crushed cardamoms and dissolve sugar and saffron in it. Soak the fried bread slices into this prepared milk for a few minutes. Remove the slices with a flat spoon and keep aside.

Mix khoya into the milk and put on fire for five minutes. Then add the bread slices to it and cook on a low fire till the mixture thickens. Turn over the slices a couple of times with a flat spoon. Add essence, remove from fire and leave to cool for a while. Then spread it on a serving dish, garnish with silver leaves and sprinkle almonds, pistachios and cherries on top. Serve cold.

## BUTTERSCOTCH SOUFFLE

- 100 grams butter

- 100 grams brown sugar
- 8 egg yolks
- ¼ litre double cream
- ½ tsp. vanilla essence
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ litre water

Heat the butter in a pan and add the sugar. Cook for a minute then add the water and continue cooking until it forms a syrup. Blend in the beaten egg yolks, and cook gently, stirring constantly until the mixture thickens. Allow to cool thoroughly. Whip the cream well and blend into the mixture. Add the vanilla and salt and stir well. Pour into a dish and freeze in the refrigerator. Stir every hour until set.

## LEMON PUDDING

- 120 grams flour, plain
- 100 grams butter
- 150 grams castor sugar
- 3 large eggs, separated
- Rind of 1 lemon, finely grated
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ¼ litre milk

Sift the flour. Cream the butter and sugar together till light and fluffy. Add the egg yolks and lemon juice and rind. Mix well. Now stir in the flour lightly and blend. Mix in the milk, a little at a time. Whisk the egg whites till stiff and gently fold into the mixture. Pour into a greased dish and bake for fifteen minutes at 355°F. in the centre of the oven. Reduce heat to 335°F. and bake for another half hour. Serve immediately.

## PEACH AND APRICOT MOUSSE

- 2 cups peach and apricot, crushed
- 1 cup castor sugar
- A pinch salt
- 1½ tsp. gelatine
- Juice of half lemon
- 2 cups cream
- 1 tbsp. nuts, finely chopped

Mix the sugar and salt with the fruit and keep aside. Soak the gelatine in two tablespoons of water and keep aside. Line one or two ice cream trays with foil and keep aside. Add a quarter cup boiling water into the gelatine and stir till it dissolves. Chill. When chilled, add the lemon juice and pour over the fruit. Mix well. Whip the cream and fold into the fruit mixture. Pour into the foil-lined trays and freeze. When set, serve in individual cups topped with the chopped nuts.

## CREOLE Caramel Cream CUSTARD

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ½ litre milk
- 4 eggs
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 tsp. vanilla essence

Preheat oven to 350°. Melt half the granulated sugar in a heavy pan, over a low flame. Remove when golden and pour into pud-

ding dish and coat the bottom well. Beat the eggs slightly and combine with the remaining granulated sugar, salt, milk and vanilla. Beat well but not frothy. Pour the mixture into the oven-proof pudding dish, over the caramel and bake for thirty to forty minutes or until well set. Allow to reach the room temperature and chill for 6 hours. Sprinkle the brown sugar evenly over the top and grill until the sugar bubbles and melts. Do not burn. Chill again for two hours.

## SHOO-FLY PIE

- 1 cup plain flour sifted
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup golden syrup
- ½ tsp. cinnamon powder
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 2 tbsps. butter
- ½ cup boiling water
- ¼ tsp. baking powder
- 1 pie crust

Keep ready one standard pie crust, unbaked and lined in a pie pan. Combine the flour, sugar, salt and cinnamon. Cut the butter into the mixture. Combine the golden syrup with the boiling water and add the baking powder. Blend thoroughly. Pour syrup into pie shell and sprinkle with flour mixture. Bake in a hot oven for ten minutes then reduce temperature and continue baking for twenty five minutes longer or until the top has set. Serve cool.

# COOKERY QUEEN

SHYAMALA RAO,  
New Delhi.



Mrs. Rao wins Rs. 100 for this month's best recipe plus a non-stick coated 300 mm Tava from Trupti Industries and a gift hamper from Corn Products, Bombay.

## SPICED DAL WITH RICE

- ¼ kg tur dal
- ¼ kg. fine rice
- 1 tbsp. Bengal gram dal (channa)
- 1 tbsp. black gram dal (udad)
- One medium size ball tamarind
- 10 tbsps. ghee or a mixture of refined oil and ghee
- Salt to taste
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 1 cardamom
- 2 cloves

## FOR THE MASALA POWDER :

- 2 tbsps. black gram dal
- 2 tbsps. Bengal gram dal
- 4 tbsps. coriander seeds
- 6 to 7 red chillis
- 3, 1" piece cinnamon sticks
- 2, 1" square dry coconut pieces
- ½ tsp. turmeric

Fry the black gram dal and Bengal gram dal together until light brown. Keep aside. Fry the coriander, red chillis and cinnamon sticks. Powder the latter first. Add the fried dals, and grated coconut. Powder together coarsely. Keep aside. Wash the tur dal and rice

together. Soak the tamarind. Extract the juice and add to the washed dal and rice. Mix salt, three-fourth of the ghee or mixture of ghee and oil. Mix the powdered masala and turmeric. Add enough water to make the dish semisolid. Cook under pressure until well cooked. Powder finely cinnamon, cardamom and cloves. Sprinkle over the dal and rice preparation. Mix well. Heat the remaining ghee. Put in black gram dal, Bengal gram dal and cashewnuts. When brown, pour over the preparation. Mix well. Serve with home made ghee and raita.

# RECIPES FROM OUR READERS



Mrs. Jonaki Bhattacharya, Pune.

## SWEET AND SOUR VADA AMBAL

- 1 cup lentil (masoor)
- 10 dried apricots, soaked and stoned
- ½ tsp. salt
- A few raisins
- ½ tsp. turmeric
- ½ cup tamarind, soaked and pulp extracted
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 tsps. cornflour
- A few mustard seeds
- Oil for frying

Soak the dal for two hours. Grind to a smooth paste, add half teaspoon baking powder, and half teaspoon salt. Beat up well. Heat oil and fry the above mixture into small round vadas. Keep aside. Leave only one teaspoon oil in the kerahi and remove excess. Add mustard seeds and when they stop spluttering pour three cups water, sugar, a pinch of salt and turmeric, apricots, raisins and tamarind pulp. When it starts boiling add the fried vadas. Lower heat and let it boil for two minutes. Add cornflour paste, give a quick rolling boil and remove. Serve cold.



Miss Swagata Guharoy, Bangalore.

## DELICIOUS DAL

- 1 medium size fish head (rahu)

- 2 cups green gram dal (moong)
- ½ tsp. sugar
- ½ tsp. chilli powder
- ½ tsp. turmeric powder
- 2 dry chillis
- 2 tsps. ghee
- Garam masala
- Salt to taste
- Oil for frying
- 1 bay leaf

### GRIND TO A PASTE :

- 1" piece ginger
- 2 tsps. cummin seeds
- ¼ tsp. pepper

Thoroughly wash the fish head. Heat one tablespoon oil in a kerahi and fry the head with a pinch of salt and turmeric. Sprinkle some water over it and cook covered till the head softens. Remove from fire and break up the head. Fry the dal in one teaspoon oil till light brown. Wash and boil in required quantity of water till thick. When half boiled, add the fish head and boil till dal is cooked. Heat two to three tablespoon oil in a kerahi and fry the bay leaves and dry

chillis. Add the masala paste, turmeric and chilli powder. Fry for a minute or two. Pour the dal into the above masala. Add sugar and salt to taste. Keep on fire for a few minutes. Add garam masala and ghee before serving.

## WEEKLY WINNER

### PARUL SINGHAL, Kanpur.



Mrs. Singhal wins Rs. 50 for this week's best recipe plus a 9 cup Storefresh container from Trupti Industries, a gift hamper from Corn Products and P. Mittulaul Lahah and Sons, Madras.

## LAYERED DAL PUDDING

- ¾ cup green gram dal (moong) (with husk)
- 1 cup ghee
- 2 cups milk
- ½ cup water
- 1 cup sugar

### FOR THE PANEER LAYER :

- 100 grams paneer
- 2 tbsps. sugar
- 10 almonds (optional)
- 4 cardamoms

### FOR THE KHOYA LAYER :

- 100 grams khoya
- 2 tbsps. sugar
- 2 tbsps. dessicated coconut
- Little milk

### FOR DECORATION :

#### 6-8 pistachios

Soak dal in water overnight. Wash well and remove husk. Grind to a very fine paste. Combine milk, water and sugar. Give one boil. Put the dal paste and ghee in a thick bottomed kerahi. Keep on slow fire. Cook till dal leaves the sides. Pour milk and stir vigorously. Cook again till the dal mixture is firm and again leaves the sides of the kerahi. Remove excess ghee. Divide the paste into three portions.

### PANEER LAYER :

Blanch almonds. Grind paneer along with almonds, sugar and cardamom to a soft paste. Keep aside.

### KHOYA LAYER :

Grind khoya with sufficient milk. Add ground sugar and dessicated coconut. Keep aside.

Press the three portions in a ring mould sandwiching each layer with paneer and khoya paste alternately.

Unmould onto a serving dish and decorate with sliced pistachios.

## COOKERY CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

### A scheme for the Monthly Cookery Queen contest.

All cookery contestants for the monthly Cookery Queen contest have to send in their recipes, non-vegetarian or vegetarian according to the subjects specified for each month. We give below subjects for the coming three months to enable you to send in your entries well in advance.

April, 1980

COCONUT VARIETIES

May, 1980

MANGO MARVELS

June, 1980

RAINY DAY SNACKS

All entries for April should reach us latest by March 5, May entries by April 5, and June entries by May 5, 1980.

## COOKERY CONTESTANTS!

### Revised Contest Rules

1. Each recipe must be accompanied by this coupon.
2. The author of each selected entry will be informed in advance and requested to send a passport size photograph of herself to be published along with her recipe.
3. The recipe must be original and not copied from a cookery book, a magazine of any other published material. The prize-winner shall have to sign a declaration to that effect before the announcement is made and the prize awarded.

Address your entries to the Cookery Editor, EVE'S WEEKLY, Bombay Samachar Marg, Bombay—400 023.

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# WOMEN IN FOCUS

Mrs. Anima Roy has been singing for over four decades in this country. Never did she dream that some day she would sing in an international jazz festival. Her major breakthrough in jazz, year before last came quite unexpectedly.

In the mid-70's, the noted female jazz vocalist Karin Krog from Norway visited Bombay to find out the possibilities of using Indian classical vocal techniques in jazz singing. She was instantly captivated by Anima Roy's singing and decided to study under her. After a few months' training, Karin Krog left for Norway only to return to Bombay a second time to receive further training under Mrs. Roy.

During the historic week-long Jazz Yatra 1978 held at the open-air Rang Bhavan, Bombay, Karin Krog who came with her trio to perform, wanted to try out something quite unusual at the festival. She invited her teacher Anima Roy to sing along with her, a specially arranged Indo-jazz composition. Accompanied by Ms. Krog's trio and Indian classical musicians, this duo exhibit-

ANIMA ROY

## BREAKTHROUGH IN JAZZ

ed superb individual mastery of voice control and vocal techniques and received thunderous applause from the large audience.

Anima Roy's emergence on the jazz scene in the Jazz Yatra '78 caused quite a sensation among the foreign jazz artistes. Another female jazz vocalist Emilié also took instructions in Hindustani classical singing from Mrs. Roy during her week-long stay in the city. So did Sharon Prabhakar who was the star of the rock show "Razzle-Dazzle", performed in Bombay last year.

Anima Roy was invited by Jazz India to perform with the great jazz trumpeter Maynard Ferguson at a 5-star hotel in the Bombay suburbs in June 1978.

Backed up by a team of prominent Indian classical musicians, Anima Roy on vocal and Maynard Ferguson on trumpet, performed a joint raga-jazz composition entitled "Chalanata" by Vene Mukunda and Ferguson, bas-



ed on the 36th raga of the 72 main-raga-system of Carnatic music, which was reviewed by music critics in newspapers as the most scintillating 'East-West' happening.

During the first half of 1979, at the invitation of the noted sarod maestro, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, who runs his music school in San Rafael, California, Mrs. Roy gave a recital during the anniversary celebrations of the Ustad's music school. Besides this, she also gave nine more recitals in other cities of the United States and one in Canada before returning to India.

Anima Roy was first attracted to both Indian dance and music

at the early age of six but later on she concentrated on music only. She was trained in singing by her mother Parimal Kana Roy who used to sing Rabindra Sangeet and Nazrul Geet on the radio. Later on, she studied seriously under Sidheshwar Mukherjee and Bismadeva Chatterjee who were two leading vocalists. But the real impact of her two maternal uncles Pannalal Ghose, the well-known flautist and Nikil Ghose, the tabla player, is discernible chiefly in "Vilambit" and "Layakari."

Thereafter, she learnt more about the intricacies of "laya", "tal" and "bol" from Lakshman Prasad Jaipurwalla of the ancient "gharana" of Haridas Goswami from whom India's international female jazz vocalist Asha Puthli had also received vocal lessons. In 1943, Mrs. Roy had stood first in vocal music in the Inter-Collegiate competition in Calcutta.

During her singing career stretching over four decades, Anima Roy has given numerous recitals on the stage, radio stations and T.V.

Anima Roy and her husband S.R. Roy together founded Rag Ranjan about fifteen years ago to encourage and preserve the best in Indian classical music and dance and encourage promising and established artistes.

Diogo Rodrigues

## THE BATTERED HUSBAND

Continued from page 13

a woefully inadequate number. When the idea of a shelter is suggested, some people say, "But our community is too small." Yet that same community, whose population may be less than 3000, will have an animal shelter for abused dogs, cats, and bunnies. To put it simply, people must have parity with the dogs and cats of the world. Each community with an animal shelter must have a human shelter.

But, people retort, shelters are expensive. That is true, but shelters are the most efficient dollar and labour investment in the struggle to help victims of domestic violence. Money is not available for shelters because politicians do not recognise domestic violence as an important problem. The U.S. House of Representatives defeated the Domestic Violence Assistance Act in May,

1978. That bill would have provided \$16 million for services on domestic violence. Sixteen million dollars is a rounding error over at the Pentagon. That sum was authorized by the 95th Congress to support the United States Olympic Committee. Yet it was too much to invest in protecting millions of citizens. (The domestic violence bill, reintroduced in the House in March, has not, as of this writing, been voted on.)

### PREVENTION

After we protect the victim, we have to start thinking about preventing violence. One of the most ruthless contributors to domestic violence is our society's tolerance and acceptance of many forms of violence.

Each day our children are exposed to a variety of messages which tell them that hitting other people is okay. Corporal punishment in schools is legally and morally accepted and even mandated. People say, our children need more discipline, and confuse discipline with hitting. The Par-

ent-Teachers Association is worried about the effects of violence on television and compiles a list of the most violent shows. But if seeing violence on television contributes to violence, imagine the impact of seeing violence in the classrooms. The PTA ought to think about listing the top 100 violent school systems and comparing that to the rates of violence of the children when they leave school for the streets.

Violence and the threat of violence are the messages people grow up with. It is not surprising that children who experience harsh punishment at home are the most ardent supporters of capital punishment. At the bottom of the tangled web of violence is the truism that violence does indeed beget violence. Each generation of children brought up on violence is another generation of potential child, wife, and yes, husband-beaters. Accept violence as an inevitable part of raising children and accept the consequences of a violent society. Reject violence as a normal part of family life and you begin to see that it is possible to raise a

healthy, happy and well-behaved generation that does not see the fist as the solution.

### FOOTNOTES:

1 The preliminary analysis of the severe violence data showed that 3.8 percent of the wives had been victims of at least one of the **severest forms** of violence. Additionally, 4.5 percent of husbands were found to be victims of at least **one form** of severe violence. Projecting these data to some 47 million couples in the United States, it was estimated that 1.8 million wives are battered by their husbands, while more than 2 million husbands are battered by their wives.

2 The complete findings are presented in "Behind Closed Doors: Violence in the American Family", by Murray Straus, Richard Gelles, and Suzanne Steinmetz, recently published by Anchor Doubleday.

Adapted from an article by Richard Gelles which appeared in Ms magazine, October 1979.

The two major problems facing today's world appear to be firstly to feed its inhabitants and secondly to keep peace among them. The latter stretches into the inner reaches of a human being and asks how man gets to be the way he is. It inquires into his early life experiences — his childhood.

Besides being a physical entity, with the many needs for physical survival, the child has needs that are fundamental for his emotional survival. In fact, more than ever before, today's child and the emerging man need to learn how to cope with the dilemma of being human.

One of the most vital and pleasurable means of achieving this is by giving children opportunities for self-expression as opposed to the monotony and chained expression to which they are generally subjected. Expression should be an experience that stirs up feelings, provides variation, colour and challenge if it is to influence feelings and behaviour.

How can spontaneity in children be encouraged and sustained? How do we select those experiences for them, which will produce a learning impact? To understand himself as a person who hurts and loves and feels joy, to learn that others around him possess sensitivities similar to his, to grasp the mystery and wonder of the physical world in which he lives, require varied learning experiences. In some, the child is a participant, in others he is a receiver of wisdom and pleasure.

The forms that can be used most effectively with the child as a participant are dramatization, dance, music, singing and art which includes all forms of creativity, in which the hands give shape to the child's mental and visual images.

On the other hand, programmes developed especially for children on radio and television, films and books on themes and about characters directly related to their interests provide them with knowledge and entertainment at their level.

In these various ways, learning becomes a two-way process — children receive impressions and images and in turn live and re-live them until slowly but irrevocably children become what they have learned through their life's experiences.

**Ranjan Amin**



A child is born into a world of sound to which he contributes from the very start — The Birth Cry!

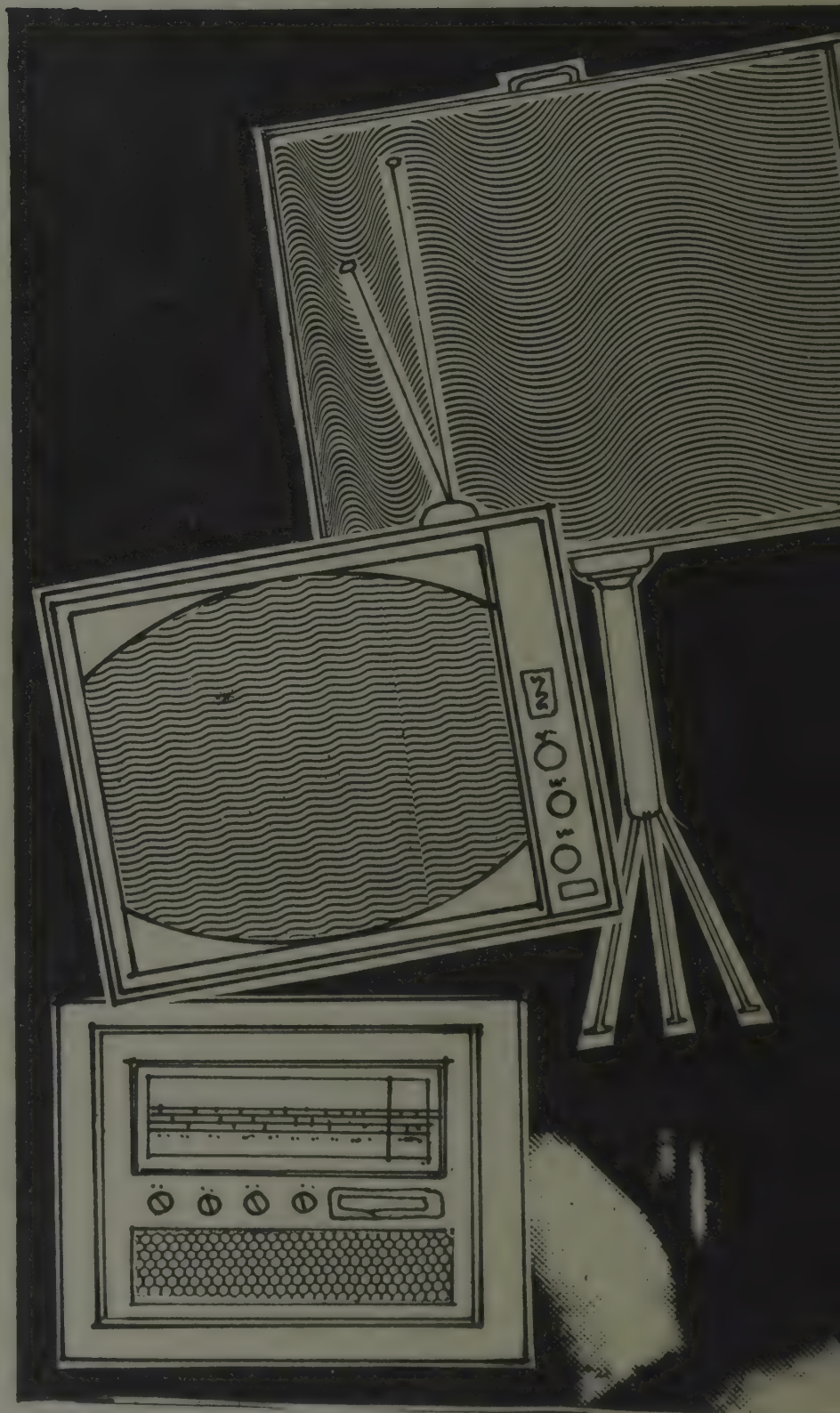
From then on among other things sounds accompany him throughout his life.

Sound was the first medium of communication known to man. Therefore Radio, a purely sound oriented medium, is particularly relevant to a developing pre-literate society like ours.

Furthermore, children learn to interpret sounds far sooner than they do words (written). Also, at that young age listening is less tiresome and provides a whole, total, integrated experience. In order to read, the child has to follow a logical progression where he can only go through one line after another. Such discipline gets internalized at a much later stage in life and after a lot of effort.

The dictionary defines sound as a sensation produced through the ear. This sensation alone (in the absence of visuals) does not pin down one's imagination, but releases it. For instance the sound of creaking could elicit a variety of responses. A child could either burst out in goose pimples in sheer fright as it associates the sound with a fearful event or it may let out a rollicking laugh at the thought of Pinnachio's nose growing longer. Now, if a visual accompanies the sound, the resulting response is likely to be more logical, predictable. Imagi-

THE RADIO, INFLEXIBLE AND BUREAUCRATIC, T.V., A SERIES OF DISJOINTED PROGRAMMES, CINEMA, WHERE COURAGE ON THE SCREEN IS EQUATED WITH VIOLENCE, AND STORY BOOKS THAT HAVE RUN OUT OF STORIES. ARE THESE GOING TO SHAPE THE MINDS OF THE FUTURE GENERATION?

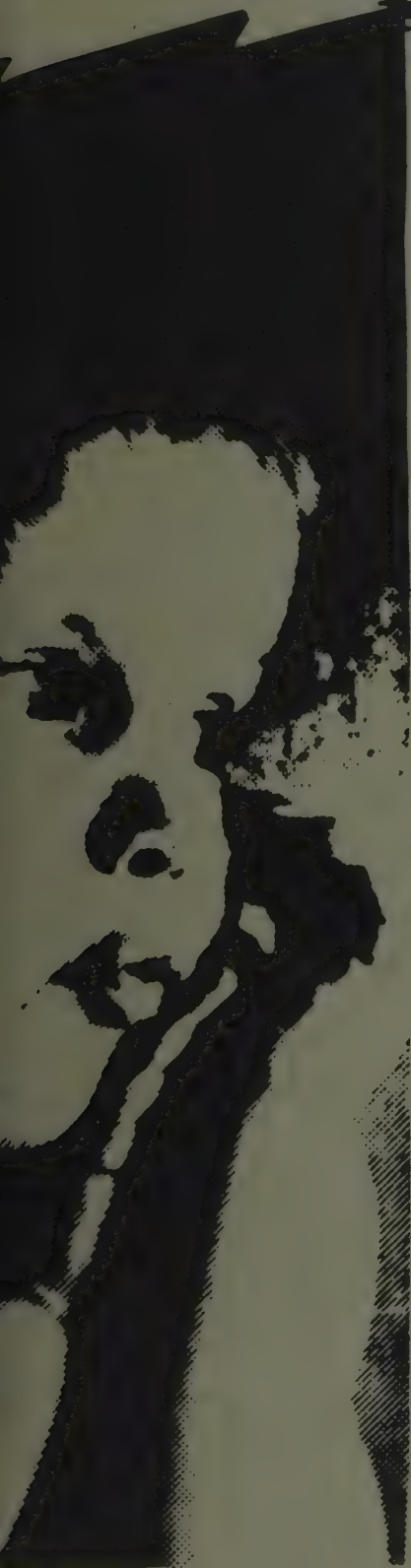


nation in the latter instance is reduced. There is always less ambiguity between the sender and the receiver in an audio-visual experience.

Let me now shift the focus slightly from the differences in quality of experiences to the technical characteristics of the radio.

It is a very simple medium. By simple I mean the equipment. For instance, in order to record a programme one just has to carry a tape-recorder across to the place of activity, and this can be edited and broadcast almost instantly. The fact that the radio does not require visuals (which in

# MINI MEDIA



but can be carried along by the listener. Children can hardly be expected to sit in one place for a considerable length of time. Adventurous parents can perhaps let them carry it around till they drop off into a deep slumber!

The simplicity of the hardware makes the radio inexpensive and therefore the average man can afford one so that it is owned by a large number of families and in turn a greater number of children can enjoy them.

So much for the potential of this medium. Going on from the general characteristics of this medium to how it functions at present, the situation is indeed very unfortunate. A medium with such scope is being left way behind.

## WHY?

Administrative restraints are among the many reasons. The tight bureaucratic set-up makes the organisation inflexible.

Furthermore, the newer medium, T.V., has left radio people with a severe feeling of inferiority which is totally unjustified. Attention has been turned away from the radio so that A.I.R. faces the problem of lack of funds. Although the reasonable thing would be to encourage this medium over others in view of its inexpensiveness, the trend is quite the reverse.

Why this discrimination between radio and T.V.?

Can they not be complementary to one another, with each filling the gaps left by the other?

Besides, is any research done before planning for children as to the kind of audience, taste of the audience and similar factors, which to a large extent will determine the type of programme? Much to my surprise radio programmers seem to feel that they

are doing just fine without this data.

On what basis are programmes scheduled? Is it to suit the convenience of the audience, the broadcasting people or is it done at random? Well, it definitely does not have the audience in mind. A radio producer confessed that she was just allotted her time and if she desired to have it changed, it would mean having to go through the entire hierarchy of the set-up and in all probability her request would be turned down.

Unfortunately, this poor scheduling has led to a clash between children's programmes on Sunday morning on the two broadcasting media — radio and television. This also indicates a total lack of co-ordination between the two media.

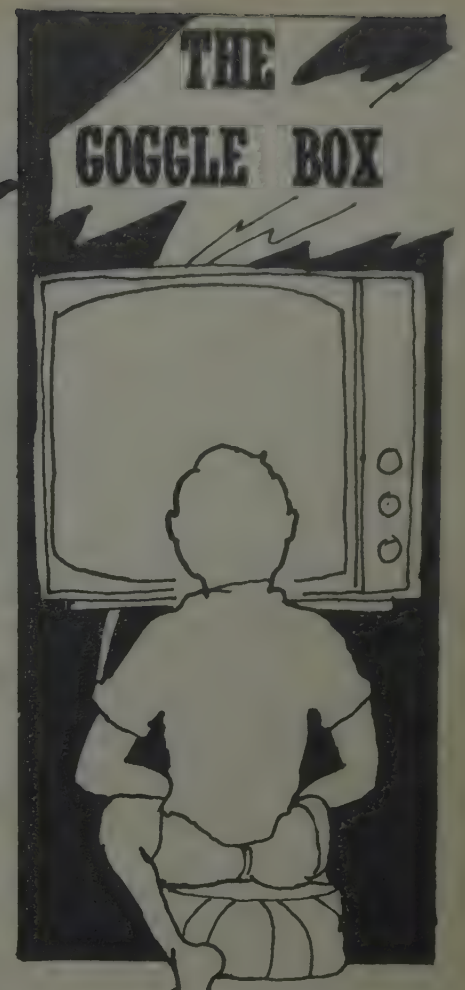
One can bring forth a counter argument at this point and say that children who own radios need not watch the T.V. But why shouldn't they benefit from both if they can afford it? After all what is required is effective planning.

Children owning radios were shockingly ignorant about programmes for their age group. When asked to think carefully, all they could remember was, "Ah! the Bournvita Quiz Contest."

This only goes to show the need for publicity for existing programmes. Why not use T.V. or the press for this purpose? If funds are the problem, entice advertisers to sponsor it.

The task at hand seems enormous and insurmountable, but the first step towards a solution will be to realise the existence of such a problem.

**Meera Mani**



In India, children have been found to be the most devoted and faithful viewers of television, whether the programmes are designed for them or not. Till today, very little research has been done to assess the overall impact of television on children in an urban setting. As far as children in rural India are concerned, we have several reports available, the most comprehensive of which is "Site Impact Study On Children" done by Dr. Shukla and Dr. Kumar, of NCERT. There are others of different depth and scope, like the one done by Saukat Rehman of the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, some done by the in-house social researchers of ISRO itself and a few independent ones done by students and professors of different colleges and universities.

Very little, if any, research has been done to examine what television is doing to the child in the urban area. Is he learning anything from it? Is it helping his development in any way? Part of the reason for this is that we do not have as yet any well-planned children's programmes. This means that the children's programmes cannot be expected to do too much as there is no well-planned television curricular arising from the needs of the children themselves.

Usually, a producer is assigned to make children's programmes and the selection and treatment of topics are left to him. The producer himself, besides

turn would mean lighting, costumes, etc.) simplifies the preparation for programmes a great deal. Now, just as the hardware for the radio is not cumbersome, neither is the instrument itself. The portability of this instrument provides tremendous mobility. It does not bog one in one place

not being familiar with developmental and educational psychology, has no support available to him in terms of experts in communication research, education and psychology. The result is that what appear on television as children's broadcasts are a variety of disjointed programmes like "A visit to a factory," "A story-reading session," "A song sung by some school children" and "A foreign cartoon", with no link between any of these.

The thought that children have special needs as television viewers may not be novel. Many, especially during the IYC, have stated that children be treated as individuals and as an important asset to society. One wonders how much of this will be reflected in the overall quality of children's programmes on television. Will it be only lip service or will IYC be the beginning of a long-term and lasting commitment to satisfy the needs of children? Will there be programmes which will benefit them and help them to grow into responsible members of society?

Whom can you blame for this neglect so far? No one in particular, and least of all the producers of children's programmes. All those concerned with children will have to share the guilt. May be, a lot will happen if there is sufficient public protest. People should help the policy makers realize the responsibility of T.V. to children and how this responsibility can be discharged.

A study done on the impact of "Magic Lamp" on children in Bombay and Pune has revealed that children enjoy the programme, have learned to sing some songs, to do some science tricks and some art work. But if you were to look beyond for anything deeper like social, cognitive and emotional development of children, you might be disappointed. For this to happen the television curriculum will have to be properly designed. These observations and findings will be more or less valid for other children's programmes too. In the absence of any data available, it is not possible to say whether television is or is not addressing the observed or felt needs of the children. But it can be said with a great deal of certainty that television is not doing much to facilitate a comprehensive development of children (physical, social, emotional and intellectual).

Now the question is, how can television be made to do the above? Many things can be learnt by talking to children by observing them, by studying them. A few steps if followed will ensure the success of the programmes. The first and foremost thing is to know the needs and problems of the child. Priorities can be then assigned to these needs (in terms of what to address first and how much time to allot to a particular concept) based on which needs emerge as the most pressing. This is only a part of what is meant by "know thy audiences." The producer ought to know not only the needs of the children but the life-styles and the special characteristics of the audience, especially those characteristics which are required to learn or assimilate what is going to be presented on television. All this information will help the producer to determine what the objectives for the programmes should be. He can now start building his curriculum.

He should also know the level of children's knowledge regarding the things (concepts) on which he is going to make the programme. This is to avoid making programmes which are either boring or too complicated for the child to understand and enjoy (programmes will be boring if they repeat what he knows and uninteresting if they are beyond him).

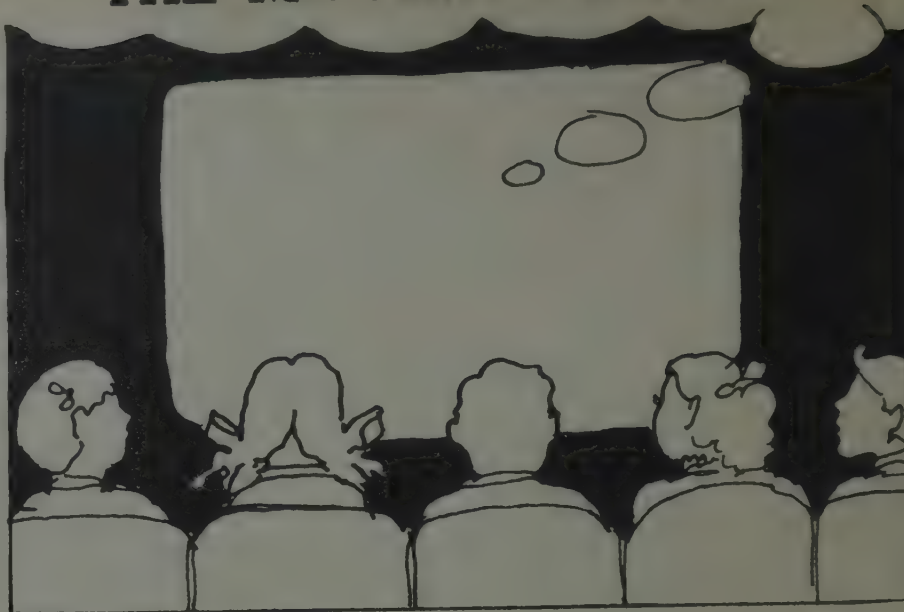
Another major concern of the producer should be to examine if a particular thing or a concept is viable on television i.e. is it appropriate for the dynamics of television and is it socially desirable to put it on television.

The above steps, plus a knowledge of what children enjoy, will enable the producer to make his programmes worthwhile for children. All this is not merely theoretical. Producers need to touch base with the children as often as they can. At the Kheda Research Production cell of ISRO, Ahmedabad, and the Research and Prototype production unit of FTII, Pune, meaningful programmes for children are being produced by following these steps.

Children should be able to enjoy television programmes, understand them and be enriched by them. Television should present to the child the larger world beyond his text-books and the walls of his home and school. The programmes should stimulate him and help him to actualize potential.

Mira Aghi

## THE MOVING PICTURE



Of all the mass media in India, it is the cinema that has come in for maximum censure in the mounting debate on the adverse effects of mass media on children.

The film industry churns out year after tiresome year various combinations of the by now perfected box-office formula of violence, sex and hyperglandular activity. The ingredients remain the same; it is the seasoning that is altered to suit a changing environment. Discussions on cinema among academics and in the drawing rooms move in concentric circles, while millions of people wind their way snake-like and hypnotised into one cinema hall after another.

This continuing, passive patronage of the commercial film is offered by producers and film makers as testimony to "product acceptance." Industry wallahs claim that the market is willing and challenge the academics to establish beyond doubt the correlation between the medium and the anti-social effects ascribed to it. Thanks to such simplistic evaluations, the arguments have become obfuscated. There is an urgent need to examine the issue seriously for it is no longer a question of whether film teaches but what it teaches, intentionally or otherwise.

The moving picture holds an innate attraction that is irresistible. The captive viewer in the darkness of the cinema is forced, in a sense, to be riveted to the lighted screen before him, on which are flashed in quick succession, a series of flowing images. Music, sound and dialogue are orchestrated to combine with these visuals and provide an all engulfing emotional experience at a pace that is determined by the editor/film maker. The viewer, and more so a child viewer, is for all practical purposes

not in control of what is happening. Not to understand this intrinsic and compelling quality of the medium and to believe that the "involved viewer" is a "happy recipient" would be to confuse form and content.

And what about the content? The cinema reflects the dominant culture in our society and to that extent is retrogressive and reinforces the status quo. By dominant culture is meant here the culture and perspective of the powerful classes. Consequently, one finds for instance, that poverty is romanticised, glossed over, even glorified. Thus the one recurring theme is that the rich have trouble of their own making, while the poor are supposedly eternally supportive of each other and seem bound together by a false camaraderie. The rich thus envy the poor their "simple" and "innocent" lives. The hunger and insecurity that stalks their days is nowhere in sight. In this way, children are anaesthetised from their early years and one can see them growing up in the image of their parents.

While stereotyping of communities, sexes, and even children (they always appear as precocious mini-adults) may go unquestioned, violence in cinema certainly finds many dissenting voices even among regular cinema goers. Ritualistic violence came of age with Amitabh Bachchan, the face that launched a thousand fists. Courage on the Indian screen is equated with the willingness to resort to violence and never with the determination to use non-violent methods. The hero who possesses the licence to kill, always emerges the vanquisher and his triumph remains untarnished by the blood of the many whom he has had to eliminate in the process. The end justifies the means. The lessons that children will draw from

all this need hardly be spelt out.

There is no doubt that methods of crime can be learnt and resurrected in real life by children. That apart, the continuous exposure to violence desensitizes the viewer, even more, the child viewer. Over time the act of crime ceases to evoke horror. Moreover, killing on screen is usually accomplished quickly — even if not silently — and its perpetrator generally walks away unrepentant. Scenes of remorse, guilt and the resultant suffering are seldom featured.

The values not promoted by the commercial cinema are even more revealing. Patience, tolerance of others, self-denial and hard work are never the virtues that characterise a hero. Rather, egotism, self gratification and a stubborn insistence on achieving his goal, whatever the means and consequences, are the sterner stuff that heroes are made of.

It may be argued that the cinema is but one part of the child's total environment. It cannot be denied however, that its peculiar qualities make it a very potent influence indeed! Moreover, although a visit to the cinema may be perhaps only once a month, continuous confrontation with cinema hoardings remind and reinforce, not to speak of the alarming number of publications that concern themselves exclusively with the astral life and times of film stars. They are held up as idols to be admired and emulated and more information is available about them than about members of any other profession in the country.

It can also be said that parents are expected to perform the role of watch persons. But parents are as much a part of this environment as their children and constitute, in fact, major consumers of this opiate. This is part of the reason why despite bemoaning and berating the ills that they agree are spawned by commercial cinema, they make no attempt to protect either themselves or their children from being exploited by the silver screen.

The other, more significant reason, is the lack of recognition in India of the child as a distinct and special entity on its own. (The middle classes and the rich have no excuse for ignoring the child thus.) Small wonder then that the Children's Film Movement has gathered no momentum despite a Children's Film Society (CFS) being established as long ago as 1955.

It is traditional for the Indian Government to take upon itself

the responsibility for ventures where the absence of profit keeps private entrepreneurs away. And so it has been with the Children's Film Movement. Initially conceived as becoming self-supporting in course of time, the CFS has remained dependent on the Government for funds.

Critics say this umbilical connection with Delhi has brought in its wake complacency and an inflexible working procedure. The CFS has done very little to justify its annual expenditure. Each year a certain number of films are earmarked for production and film makers are expected to meet this financial year deadline whether or not it coincides with their filming schedule! Further, the CFS plans its budget for films depending on whether they are black and white or colour. Surely a budget should reflect script requirements? A black and white film shot in Kashmir may be more expensive than a colour film set in Bombay.

Certainly the most important problem confronting the CFS is that of distribution, and this problem is accentuated by the image the CFS has of itself as a charitable organisation propelled by the worthy principle of providing "good clean entertainment" for children. Laudable though these motives are, the CFS is completely dependent on a distribution system that is ruthlessly commercial. If the CFS has to play along with these distributors it must be able to respond and react with flexibility. That not being the case, the CFS pays a heavy price for renting cinema halls, spends next to nothing on publicity so that shows run to half empty halls, insists on charging Re. 1 or less even in affluent areas where children can easily afford more and ends up operating at a loss and turning to the government for bailing it out. And lest we should forget, let us remember the government subsidises such projects with tax payers' money.

The problems besetting the CFS do not detract from the good work that it has been trying to do given its inherent and external limitations. What is distressing is that it can do so much more.

Young film makers ask, quite justifiably, why they should involve themselves with the CFS if their work stands a better than average chance of being exhibited only to a handful of children. The one solution put up to the Government — selling films to television at a price comparative to the commercial film — was rejected outright, despite Doord-

arshan's willingness to accept this. Instead, it was suggested by the Government that CFS should charge no more than Films Division (FD) does for its documentaries. But then FD's modus operandi is quite different. Cinema halls are statutorily obliged to show FD shorts and FD is in turn entitled to a sum of money for the "service" provided!

Perhaps it takes a "Year of the Child" to focus attention on issues like these. Maybe, as a result of the debate on the vital questions we should be asking ourselves about the world into which our children are growing, people will become more conscious of the role that cinema and other media are playing. With a bit of luck then, we may become more discriminating in what we allow our children to believe.

Lata Mani

the need to re-establish links with our own past and realizing the gap there is in this area, I have begun to question some of it. Is the past all there is? Can the present only be the past? Merely because of a two-hundred-year interruption by the British and a somewhat regrettable break of continuity with our past, are we going to get stuck in the retelling, ad nauseum, of our myths, legends and folklore? Lastly, is it desirable to make out that the past is all we will ever have; that the last Indian yarn has been spun out hundreds of years ago; that we, who have been called the storytellers of the world, have run out of stories to tell?

It has also made me question many a publishing motive. Those who profess that we should do something more than merely retell and project the past will give

## Story Time



There are many things that books for children ought to be. Publishers will reel them off pat — books for children must be fun, must teach, must delight the heart, etc., etc. And of course, the Indian publishers will add, books must be rooted in our culture, relate to things Indian, thoughts Indian, situations Indian. And in this last lies the biggest trap that publishing could have set itself. It is not so much what Indian publishing does in the name of "our glorious culture" — which somehow has come to mean "our glorious past" — that constitutes this trap. It is what Indian publishing does not do, or omits to do.

After five years of peddling Indian culture, believing fully in

you reasons why it is not possible to do so — the books will not sell, the reading public wants Indian culture, India's past. And some will even tell you of the only mode of projecting the past — the comic form. All this points to two basic reluctances which are eating into all worthwhile publishing plans:

1) The reluctance to experiment.

2) The reluctance to shoulder the responsibility of creating a market, of undertaking the spadework involved in climbing out of a comfortable rut, to stop pulling musty classics off the shelf and churning out the never-ending tale of Indian glory.

The temptations are too great and the options too soft. Publishing simplifies into a task of farming out work, writing becomes recreative rather than creative, editing reduces to rewriting and prettying up, selling becomes easy.

Most destructive of all, somewhere along the line, from the very valid posture that we need to re-establish links with the past, Indian publishing has shifted to the totally invalid posture, in a fit of absent-mindedness almost, that it is the **only** job publishing has to do. During this exercise of recreating our past, our present passes us by. The child (can one blame him?) continues to devour Enid Blyton, Nancy Drew and Richie Rich.

The guilt-ridden Indian parent buys him the "desi" stuff which he dutifully reads. At least, he knows who Bhima was, and Narakasura or whoever or whatever. **At least** is the operative phrase. Never mind the language, never mind the boredom, the past is a pill that must be swallowed. In the name of our glorious past, mediocrity is tolerated, writing standards lowered and reading requirements amputated. And the final irony is that the glorious Indian past, by the time it has been processed for consumption, ceases to be glorious. The intelligent child yawns in its face.

The picture I have drawn is bleak. The case is somewhat overstated. There are publishers who are making a genuine effort to break this vicious circle. Books, particularly for the very young, have stopped turning back to the past. Original fiction, adventure, humour are being prospected. Talent-hunting, against great odds, has honestly begun.

All this however will prove abortive if book marketing lags behind. And book marketing in India is embarrassingly outdated. Schools are untapped except for textbooks or officially recommended supplementary reading. Book promotion and publicity are moribund. While every other kind of consumer is exposed to a fairly high degree of advertising, the consumer of books is subjected to virtually none. It is assumed, quite wrongly, that books once produced, will bring the buyer rushing. If anything, consumer lethargy is strongest

amongst book consumers. Chocolate will be bought, so will ice-cream or soap. Books will just be forgotten. One only has to look at any household budget. Milk will feature, and of course cereals — these are essentials. Cinemas, sweets, even restaurants will make the list. What to eat, what to see, where to go; but rarely, if ever, what to read. Marketing has to break through this wall of inertia. Few consumers will go looking for a book.

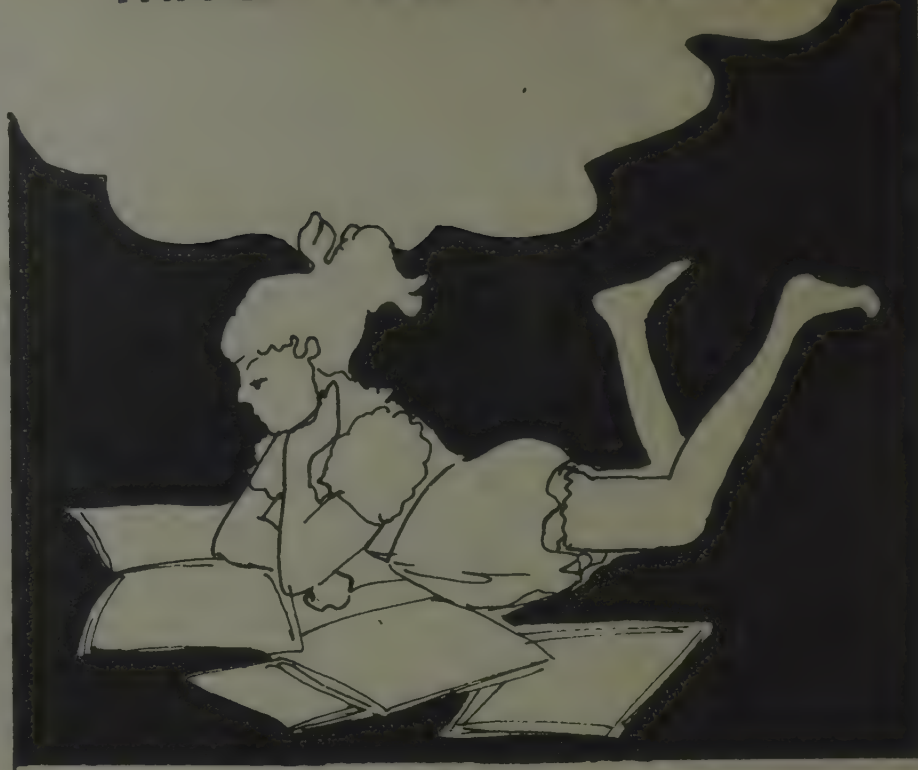
This particularly applies to children's literature. And there are ways of getting through. Book buying should be fun. Book shops must draw the child irresistibly. There must be room for browsing; people to help, guide and generate interest. A book shop should not be a place where the child enters, grabs a book and makes a hasty exit. For every book he actually buys, he must see half a dozen more he would like to buy. A book shop must be an experience he wants to repeat. Books must walk — to schools, to fairs, to fun-places. Book buying must become a habit, a part of growing up, like buying peanuts, pencils, rubbers, balls and kites. And this is a habit the child need never outgrow.

The avenues for marketing are endless — as endless as the ways to a child's heart. A whole new expertise in book management and marketing needs to be developed, and developed fast. Most other problems would then start clearing up.

The '80s should see a crop of children's literature which will not have to be rooted in the past in order to be certified "Indian." And, interestingly enough, this body of children's literature will constitute a truly healthy challenge to the current drab, sluggish and generally mediocre stream of retold myth and legend. Pitted against more attractive and equally relevant books with **life as it is**, books on **life as it was** will become better. The past will stop being merely glorious or worthwhile or instructive and begin to be interesting. Perhaps even come alive.

Lakshmi Lal

# MAGS ARE A DRAG



My earlier recollections of reading material are courtesy Enid Blyton and a couple of publications brought out by Parents Magazines published in the U.S.A. They had Humpty Dumpty's magazine for little children, which were thick, colourful issues with stories and creative activities to introduce the young child between the ages of 3 and 7 to the wonderful world of words and pictures. For the 7 plus, the "Children's Digest" included excerpts from well loved classics and pages of fun, facts and fantasy. From this, one graduated to "Calling All Girls" for teenagers. Besides covering most of the usual topics, it gave tips on beauty, fashion, and other items of interest during the growing up years. Thus, with this as a basis of comparison, I was more than disappointed at the magazines published in India for the present generation of pre-teens.

There are six English language publications. Alphabetically they are, "Bal-Vihar", "Champak", "Chandamama", "Children's Digest", "Children's World" and "Sunshine". Of these, only four were available at the stalls.

"Bal Vihar" is the only magazine which allows for active participation by its young readers. It regularly publishes contributions sent in by budding poets, writers and artists. This aspect is heartening, for which parent wouldn't be proud to see her child's creative talent in print? Or, imagine a child's reaction at seeing her own compositions on the pages. Besides, for the child who loves a challenge there are numerous puzzles, contests, and riddles to

work out. Another interesting column which attracts attention is titled "For Dad to read" with a rather appropriate quotation for the parent. The shortcomings of this publication are the quality of its illustrations and the total lack of publicity. The absence of a comic strip is also unfortunate. Of the first mentioned, the sketches sent in by the children are good, but couldn't something be done to improve the other drawings thus making them more effective and relevant to the story/article? And the cover? Wouldn't just one subject suffice instead of the numerous sketches, which don't depict anything very significant? Mrs. Aruna Sheth, the editor, pointed out, "Every illustration in colour costs money. As it is, we barely make ends meet." That is also the reason for their total lack of publicity. "To make an impact, the ad has to be repeated frequently and ours being a single publication unit, as I mentioned earlier, finances are our major handicap," she said. Financed by the Chinmaya Trust, it was started in 1969, and Aruna has been at its helm since its inception. A free-lance journalist, she is also a qualified psychiatrist and a social worker. So she dealt with children extensively.

"Champak" is one of the latest entrants into the world of children's publications. This attractively brought out monthly has a good stock of well illustrated stories, but there is very little to tax the mind of the young reader. The bold type is good for the eyes, yet why do they have to spoil the magazine by putting in one article, in small print and with badly reproduced photos?

graphs. Take for example, the article on Adelaide, in the July issue.

By far the most popular one, sales-wise, is "Chandamama." Printed in 13 languages, including a foreign edition in Sinhalese, its largest readership is in Hindi. Founded over 25 years ago by Mr. Chakrapani who was very ably supported by B. Nagi Reddi, the doyen of the film industry, and printed in South India, the first issue was in Tamil.

Mr. K. V. Thakkar, their Branch Manager in Bombay, stated that their "modest" start of 10,000 copies a month has now crossed the 3,07,000 mark and was reaching the remotest corner of the country which neither trains nor buses traverse. Here it's the omnipresent postman who acts as delivery boy. The English edition rates 5th on the circulation graph. "How does your system of catering to all the languages work?"

"When we purchase an original contribution, we use it in all the editions," Mr. Thakkar said. "We retain the essence of the original. Matter which can't be translated is published only in that language. Shakespeare, for example will only be in the English edition."

Then he added, "We lay great stress on classics. They will never go out of vogue. In the old days, our grandparents used to relate them, but with joint families disappearing, this is now rare. Yet the parents of today want their children to know these tales of bygone heroes. This explains the popularity of the Amar Chitra Katha publications. Another reason for their popularity are the visuals, which make a greater (and quicker) impact on the reader than the printed word.

"But Mrs. Sheth doesn't favour them as a substitute for books. "Besides being a shortcut method, the reader usually gets the wrong concept. The story is bound to be related in a haphazard manner," she says.

On the minus side, "Chandamama" seems monotonous — for there are just pages and more pages of short stories — no poems, no cartoons or comic strips, no science fiction, except for a page off and on which deals with some topic taught in school. This also did not find favour with the children interviewed about this article. As Sudhir Bapat aptly put it, "Its quite a bore to have to read a magazine which tells you how oxygen is prepared in the lab, just when you've studied it at school. A magazine is meant for relaxation."

Another negative point is the Sanskrit shlokas. No one has anything against them, but couldn't they pick up some simpler ones, in keeping with the age group (8 plus) they cater to?

What initially attracts one to the "Children's Digest" is its name. The magazine doesn't boast of a large circulation, but has thought provoking and informative articles for the child with a yen for serious reading. They answer some fascinating day to day queries like, "What happens to the oil that burns in lamps?" or "How do spectacles help us to see?" What is deterring, however, is the absolute dearth of illustrations. In the absence of Mrs. Dorothy Manning, the editor, Mr. Z. Abedin, the managing editor spoke of the good old days when their circulation was over 15,000. With the paper crisis it dropped to a mere 5,000. "We haven't been able to pick up since," he admits. Today, their bulk orders are from schools, one reason for which could be the type of matter they offer. "Our editorial board has discussed the pros and cons, and has decided to stick to this style, for though by changing to a lighter vein we may gain more readers, we'll lose out on the quality," he said. Started in 1967 under the aegis of Mrs. Manning, it was primarily for teenagers in vernacular schools. The experiment didn't prove successful. Then came the switch over in style and the graph showed an upward trend.

The comparative readership per copy is 5-6 while "Chandamama" boasts of 20-30 per issue. 'Bal Vihar' could be more, for the purpose of our magazine is to see that it's widely read. We distribute numerous free copies to libraries and municipal schools," Aruna said.

Sudhir Bapat is a brilliant youngster now awaiting his SSC results. An ex-student of St. Xavier's, he, as well as 12-year-old Nikhil Karani of Cathedral School, showed a marked preference for "Sunshine". The former found that it included everything of interest to him—especially his favourite, the sports section. "I like a magazine to have lots of illustrations," he said, "Yet I don't think a comic can tell a story as effectively as words can. Also, I wish stories wouldn't be serialised. One can't always buy the issues regularly, so I miss out a part or two." Foreign magazines, he borrows from lending libraries. He is of the opinion that magazines aren't worth storing, but an interesting clipping here or there goes into his scrap book.

Nikhil is partial towards adventure tales and likes articles on crime detection and science fiction. He found most of the Indian magazines rather dull in comparison to foreign publications. They didn't hold any appeal. He does enjoy stories with an Indian background, so what's offered in "Chandamama" attracts him. Both these boys wanted "Children's Digest" to have more illustrations, for they did enjoy the articles. Another favourite reading material of Nikhil's is airline schedules. He has their ABC guide at his fingertips. You tell him where you want to go, be it even Timbuctoo or Jericho, and he'll chalk out a complete itinerary telling you which flights are most suitable!

Eight-year old Vikram Lulla is a voracious reader. He laments, "We can avail of the library facilities only after we reach class VI." A class IV student at Campion, he doesn't know what all the school subscribes to. At home its usually books and comics. "I have seen "Chandamama", but it doesn't interest me. I like adventure stories and here I find most of the stories have a moral behind them, and I don't like being lectured to, especially when I'm reading for fun." His favourites are "Adventure stories for Boys" and allied publications. Of comics he said, "I go through the ACK series. In fact, these are the only comics my mother encourages me to read as she says that I must learn about my country. Besides, I don't think she knows most of the stories herself," he commented with an impish grin.

Among girls, pert and pretty Vrinda Khanna is also from the same school as the Karanis. A talented 10-year-old, she composes poetry. "My poems have appeared in 'Chic'," she said. Till now she wasn't aware of the existence of "Bal Vihar" as another opening for her compositions. She too, will only have access to the school library once she goes into senior school. The feminine trait in her wants "a cooking page, simple recipes for beginners, and things to make and do which I find so much of in foreign magazines." She would also like inclusion of "animal stories, and book reviews as a guide for us readers."

The other two girls, Reena Karani and Amrita Shah are 7 and 6 respectively. They haven't found anything suitable for themselves

among the periodicals available. Chirpy little Reena's favourite is Enid Blyton. "I love her," she said enthusiastically. She has "Humpty Dumpty" and "Disneyland" at her disposal, now that big brother Nikhil has outgrown them. "Now those are the kind of magazines I can spend hours reading," she said.

Amrita is in Std. I at Queen Mary's High School. "I love books and have lots of them at home and I can read them all by myself," she said with pride. Magazines? The only ones she is aware of are the ones Mummy and Daddy read. Though Amrita fancies 'Richie Rich', her mother would like her to start on the ACK stories as soon as she is able to comprehend them. So she wishes that a few of them could be simplified for the 5-7 year olds. As Mrs. Gita Shah isn't familiar with magazines for kids that young, the only alternative to books are comics. If a periodical were to be brought out for the under 7, she suggests they include answers to everyday questions like "Why does thunder make noise?", questions which this youngster as well as lots of others must be pestering their parents with. Leafing through what's printed in India Mrs. Shah's reaction was, "The get-up just isn't interesting enough for me even to think of buying them. I do admit that the "Children's Digest" offers a lot for the older child, but just look at the cover..." Mrs. Lulla, doesn't feel like purchasing magazines for all reading material is so expensive, "I'd rather spend the money on something which has more substance." They were quite pessimistic about the future of these periodicals, as one of them remarked ruefully, "Keeping in mind what's been available for the last ten years or so, I don't think they'll make a better job of it."

This challenge alone should be incentive enough to urge the editors/publishers into producing more attractive useful and varied reading material for these young highly impressionable minds.

**Amita Sarwal**

## PASSING THROUGH

A team of six young American doctors were recently on an Indian tour, to study the use of Yoga techniques in the field of medicine. They are devoted students of Swami Satchidananda Maharaj of the Satchidananda Ashram, Connecticut, which has 40 branches in the U.S.A.

## APPROACHING MEDICINE THROUGH YOGA



The group of young American doctors from the Satchidananda Ashram, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Dr. Sandra McLanahan, (Amritananda Ma), is a physician at the Day Kemball Hospital, and is on the faculty of the University of Connecticut. She is also the medical director of a unique health care facility, Intergral Health Services. It was founded on the principles of the Intergral Yoga Philosophy, as taught by Sri Swami Satchidananda. Dr. McLanahan has written many articles and has lectured widely on the subject of yoga and medicine.

Dean (Deenabandhu) Ornish, senior medical student at the Baylor College of Medicine, documents the effects of yoga practices upon heart diseases. He has received funding from the Franzheim Synergy Trust, to document in a seven month study, the efficacy of yoga and a vegetarian diet, in the treatment of coronary heart diseases.

Recipient of the American Medical Association's fellowship for work in the area of infantile nutrition in Lima, is young Dr. Rosenthal (Palitha). Dr. Rosenthal is specifically interested in the relationship of yoga and medicine, and the cure of headaches through yoga practice. She is also currently writing a book, entitled "Alternative Design in Medical Education."

Lisa Kakeshashi, is an enterpris-

ing physio-therapist. She has done extensive research in the area of pain and has lectured widely. Lisa is interested in the study of the relationship between yoga postures and physical therapy, and has written a booklet on the "Management of Chronic Lower Back Pain." Shirley Brown, a senior medical student from Houston, Texas, worked with Sri Swami Satchidananda, and Deenabandhu, in their pioneer study of the relationship of yoga practices to the management of coronary heart diseases. She is working to publish these results, which will appear in national medical journals.

Completing her Master's degree in Nutritional Science at Goddard College is Gail (Kali) Rosenbaul. A certified yoga teacher, she has lectured widely on yoga therapy, and nutrition.

The Intergral Health Education Centre, (I.H.E.C.), is the educational branch of Intergral Health Services. I.H.E.C. offers lectures, classes and residency programmes, as well as training for professionals seeking certification in Intergral Yoga Health Care approach.

Easeful, Peaceful, Useful is their line of teaching. They believe that prevention is better than cure. "Daily yoga practice," said one doctor, "is like an insurance policy for health. Exercise and clean air gives a peaceful mind. Of the ten limbs of yoga, meditation is one. A peaceful mind will lead to a useful life."

About their Indian tour they said, "India being the birthplace of yoga and allopathy we want to see how yoga is being used here." And what have they found? "You see, we've found that there isn't much use of yogic techniques in medical practice. But we have learnt a lot about Ayurvedic medicine. In fact several of us will stay back here to study Ayurvedic medicine."

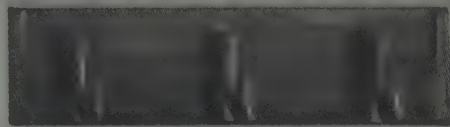
When asked about the youth problem in America, they replied, "At one time, the youth problem in relation to drugs was chronic. Swami Satchidananda has reached out to the American youth, and encouraged the drug addicts to practise yoga."

**Mohini Ramalingam**

## WHAT'S NEW

To help you keep track of the useful new products that come into the market now and again.

And now peel-n-stick products: "Rexello" plastic Multi-hook and Toilet Roll Holder (Rs. 3.50 and Rs. 5.50 respectively excluding taxes). Available in several shades to match your decor. They have an arrangement for fixing screws too.



Displayed here are some recent products from Shingar Cosmetics, Bombay. The Shingar Turmeric Beauty Cream contains natural ingredients including saffron and sandalwood, to keep skin smooth and flawless (Rs. 8 excluding taxes). Tips and Toes Nail Lustre is available in several attractive shades — plain and pearly (Rs. 8 and Rs. 9). At leading stores throughout the country.

# Those Romantic Latinos!

"PIROPO" IS A SPANISH WORD WHICH MEANS "A COMPLIMENTARY FLIRTATIOUS REMARK." WHAT DISTINGUISHES THE ART OF PIROPOS FROM THE PRACTICE OF EVE-TEASING IS ITS GOOD HUMOUR AND LACK OF MALICE. HOWEVER, IT BELONGS TO THE ERA OF CHIVALROUS GALLANTS AND DAMSELS IN DISTRESS AND, ALONG WITH THEM, IS FADING AWAY

Ajit Singh Bhati



Somebody observed that the finest compliment that can be paid to a woman of charm is to address her as such. Obviously he believed with Oscar Wilde in yielding to the temptation in order to get rid of the temptation. While the poets and the lovers provide proverbial examples of seducible people who recurrently yield to wayward fancies the only other dare-devils incapable of resisting their reflexes are the louts and the lunatics.

In some Latin American countries, especially Peru, evidence of the now fading art of Piropo (a Spanish word which means a complimentary flirtatious remark) are still fairly visible. Though once in a blue moon one may come across a bunch of young girls giving a piropo to a male friend of theirs — a lone woman giving a piropo would almost invariably be a streetwalker — a piropo is mainly a man's way of expressing his sense of appreciation of a woman's beauty and is usually accompanied with a bow as if to beg pardon for paying it.

A piropo looks more or less a manifestation of the mental make-up or attitude of a people towards the members of the opposite sex in matters of social intercourse. Aren't our actions unconscious reflections of our thoughts? In Rome for example, they pinch the bottoms of their womenfolk without registering any visible stirrings of the conscience. Whether their women secretly approve of this is not known for certain, but the number of cases registered with the police in any one year are negligible.

But in Delhi women complain that they feel shorn of their modesty not only after a ride in a

crowded city bus but also while walking the pavements under the leering gaze of the young and the not-so-young ill-dressed and well-dressed wolves. In contrast, the Latinos seem to have developed a sophisticated verbal system of communication which is generally an end in itself and is only rarely the preparatory phase of bolder amatory advances. This wide range of variance of attitudes towards women seems a

measure of the different emotions women evoke in different climes and countries. In some Islamic countries for example, they subscribe to the opinion that a woman is best seen when unseen, while in most of Christendom they repose an unflinching faith in the power inherent in woman's anatomy.

For them it is the only sales-booster — for everything from a

hairpin to an airplane—which never gets out of style. For us in India a woman is either an untouchable or else a duplicating machine. In Latin American countries they claim that while they treat their women as normal human beings to ensure fruitful participation in day-to-day chores of life, their women get recognition for their womanhood also.

It shouldn't be therefore quite surprising to note that an opinion poll conducted in Lima ("New York Times", 12 Oct, 1969) showed that if given a chance to be born again 79 per cent of Peruvian women chose to spend their life as women again while a similar poll ("Hindustan Times," 26 Aug. 1979) by Assistant Professor Akira Sawada in Osaka revealed that 50 per cent of Japanese women wanted to be born a man. Though no such study is available for India, my guess is that not even emancipated women here would want to be born a woman again, especially in view of the unbearable male uncouthness visible everywhere.

In sharp contrast to this, a fine example of how Latin American women relish their womanhood is explicit in the way a Limena (woman from Lima) exasperated a young Asian diplomat. She said: "You know how to respect a woman but not how to appreciate her. You pass a woman on the street and you never even let her know that you recognise she is a female — she might as well be a lamp post." In short, she expected a piropo!

But dishing out piropos is an art, and art by nature defies analysis. Art grows with civilization, but withers quickly in an unfavourable climate and equally

## THOSE ROMANTIC LATINOS!

quickly degenerates in the company of unscrupulous characters. The essential thing in art is to know where to draw the line, as G. K. Chesterton suggested.

In a country like ours where eve molesting and even eve mauling are swept under the carpet as Eve teasing, a relatively venial exercise, the art of piropos may be stripped of all its elegance and may in all probability be equated with Eve teasing. But a piropo is "Eve appreciation" which a civilized society approves of and not Eve teasing which functions as an escape valve for smothered obscenities fomented by the general corruptive atmosphere.

Since women in Latin American countries are not regarded as symbols of weakness and men are not tuned to gloating over perverse masculinity, piropo is a pastime in which both sides win. As there is no involvement of the feeling of guilt, there is no loss of face or lowering of one's image in anybody's eyes.

In fact, in India we can scarcely hope verbally to appreciate a beautiful woman with a dash of that delicate interplay of deportment and easy wit which the Latinos so naturally exhibit. Instead, what meets the eye here is utter crassness, brazenness and naked salaciousness lifted unexpunged from the Indian screen. Even a diluted version of piropo called "galanteria" (literally a complimentary but nonflirtatious remark) and reserved by Latinos for their relatives and close friends is unthinkable here because of the hypocrisy of maintaining a puritanic facade over a debauched citizenry.

Or have our convenient memories swept aside the Ravinder Sarovar case, the Connaught Circus case, the Indore case, the nurses' hostel case...?

In Latin American cities, on the other hand, women of exceptional beauty are known to have literally stopped the traffic on busy cross-roads under a hail of piropos from every side, but without receiving any injury to their person or emotions.

Though only occasionally, people may even be seen stopping their cars and stepping out just to give a piropo and thus establish their keen sense of apprecia-

tion of beauty. While some women in such a situation decide in favour of savouring the piropo, there are others who try to become inconspicuous by displaying ignorance of what is happening around them and melt away hastily from the scene.

While the rationale of giving a commonplace piropo like "What big turquoise eyes you have!" is to compliment or flatter a woman, a piropo such as "How I wish I were your son so you could hold me in your arms" tries to capture the emotions a woman arouses in a man at a particular time and place. A piropo in order to be effective should

ever, one should not rule out a counter-piropo from a matching wit. For instance, to the piropo, "Hallo, first flower of spring," the girl might respond, "So long, last melon of autumn" accompanied by a mischievous laugh.

Latin American men and women have therefore found in the medium of piropos uses other than mere appreciation. For women, piropos help develop feminine self-awareness and self-esteem. They provide them with a facelift for their ego, rejuvenate the ageing. In fact, a lack of piropos may offend the feminine psyche quite severely. For men, an encouraging response to their pi-

met largely by the mass-media. While movies, the radio and the television constantly cater for all, some newspapers also ("La Semana" in Cuba, for example) devote a column for mass-dissemination of piropos.

The contribution of Ecuadoreans in promoting the growth and circulation of healthy piropos is sufficiently impressive. They hold an annual contest at which prizes are given to the best piropos for their ingenuity, elegance and breeziness. Prize winning piropos are then published in national-level newspapers for wide circulation. Such piropos are known to have become an instant craze not only with the Ecuadoreans but also with other Latinos.

Though nothing about the origins of piropos is known for certain, most people believe that piropos were born of the influence of Arabic poetry on Christian Romance literature. There appears some truth in this, especially in view of the existence of a large body of poetry in Arabic which is full of the repartees and sallies of lovers. However, another view finds its origins in the continuation of Spanish folk literature which embodies a fine display of gags, puns and wisecracks.

While Lima in Peru may be conveniently taken to be the nucleus of this art, it has now crossed both the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans and reached Spain in Europe and Japan in the Far East. There is a night club in Tokyo called the "Club Piropo". The popularity of this art, however, is confined to certain pockets mainly because of the ease with which vulgarity starts masquerading under the name of piropos.

Connoisseurs of this art set quite high standards for themselves and consider serving an ideal piropo almost as difficult as tightrope walking. Only a people whose social structure rests on the bedrock of solid character instead of hypocrisy can hope to indulge freely in this pastime without getting bogged down in moral decrepitude. However, the final verdict on the quality has to come from the women's side.

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not only be ingenious but elegant and sparkling with wit.

Yet another motivation may be to playfully tease young women. One might say to a group of girls: "I like the one with ear rings." The girls would all reach for their ears and simultaneously look at their companions only to discover that none is wearing them. They would usually end up giggling over such mischief. How-

piropos by the members of the opposite sex produces a pleasurable sense of virility.

Obviously the existence of this functional relationship between piropos and the human psyche necessitates a well stocked repertoire of piropos for ready use. As in other spheres, here also, mass-consumption demands are

Humour, the way it is.

sics this year instead of Asterix comics — you know, enrich my mind so that my columns can be more intellectual — so I ran off to buy myself the collected works of Tolstoy and Thackeray. But would you believe it, they mixed up my order with someone else's and gave me, instead, a giant compendium of Enid Blyton stories and the latest paperback edition of *Asterix and the Grand Feast* at a discount price. It was such a strange coincidence, I didn't go back and change my order.

Of course, one of the standard ploys while making resolutions is to rig them so that it is difficult to break them. On this list I resolved that: I would make a list of resolutions; at-

The reason why New Year is a good time to make resolutions is: You have twelve months in which to break them.

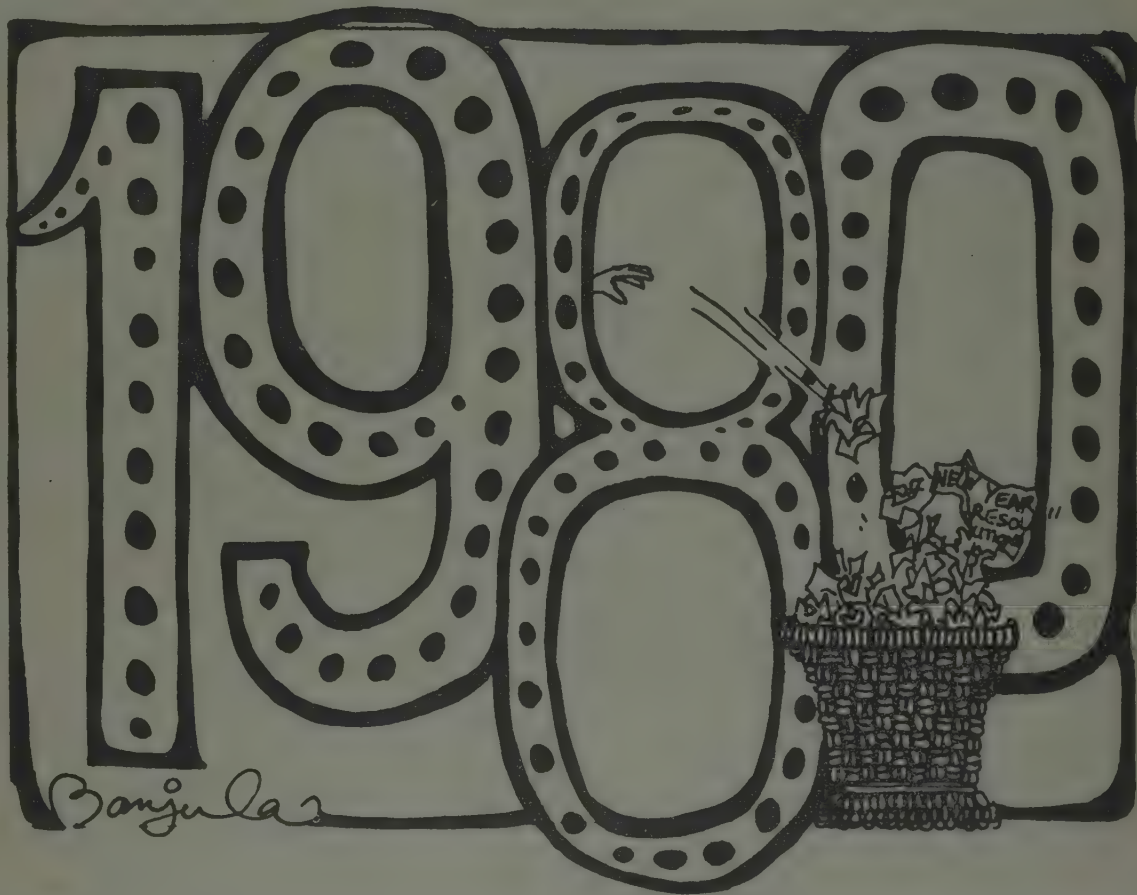
Some of us, of course, do not need that much time to discover how easily one's good intentions can become bad memories. Take myself — I broke my first resolution almost at once. I had decided that this year, for the first time in my life (well...almost) I would make a brave attempt to face the early morning sun — early being defined as any hour, minute or second before nine o'clock. The last few moments of the departing year having been spent in the usual boisterous fashion, I made my excuses and settled down to a pious seven-hour nap, expecting to be woken by the sun's first rays slanting into my room. Imagine, then, my surprise when I discovered, the next day — long, long after it had dawned — that my window faces west.

Then there was the resolution to take more buses this year and not cabs, because to take a cab nowadays is to risk certain exposure as a black-moneywallah. Not that I normally have money of any shade or description, it's just that it bothers me that whenever I do have some, it nearly always gets spent by some hardworking cabbie in the long run. So I set out purposefully to catch me a bus and discovered, surprise, surprise, that there are many ways to catch a bus. And the worst way, is to wait around looking elegant until one comes along and stops long enough for you to read its number, never mind attempt to get on. And just as fate would have it, that day as on no other day, there were whole squadrons of shiny new taxis, all touring around hopefully with their meters up and their drivers looking winsome. And that was another resolution out of the way.

I thought this would be a good year to decide not to dislike cockroaches so much — I mean, after all, they are only poor, innocent, harmless, little monsters — but that lasted only just so long as it took for me to run into my next cockroach. Whereupon I went into the usual frenzy-and-hysteria scene, shoes, books, crockery, tape recorders and grenades supplying the usual arsenal against the usual adversary.

There was the idea that maybe this twelvemonth I should make an attempt to be better dressed. But when I wandered into the local boutique I discovered that the current fashions are somewhat too skimpy for my generous proportions and that nothing short of size forty would survive my bustline. So I gave up that resolve in a hurry, before the salesgirl caught up with me and saw how many

## NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS AND HOW TO BREAK THEM



blouses I had burst into. This led smoothly on to the next resolution, i.e. a cast-iron determination that this year — as in no other year of my life — I would cease to look like India's answer to Muhammad Ali. It went quite well for a day or two, but then there was that tiny piece of quiche lorraine...that morsel of chicken moghlai...that grain of biryani...that absolute frisson of cream on my strawberries...and quite soon another resolution lay in shards around me.

I thought I'd start reading the Clas-

tempt to be happy once or twice a month; not spend more money than I earn (alternately: earn as much as I spend); eat not more than six meals a day; see as many movies as possible; get out of bed any time after six in the morning; be nice to all the people I like; and, last but hardly the least, I solemnly resolve to write my column regularly, as any good and sober column tenant should.

A. Kaulumnisist

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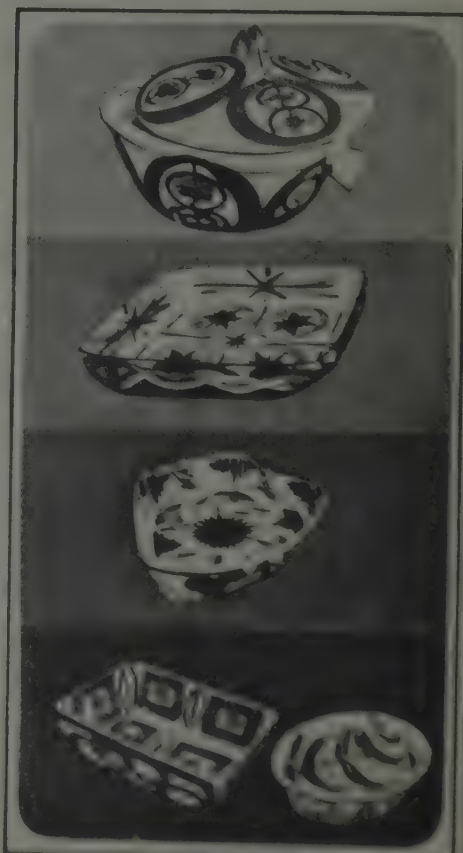
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mas

Vows made in storms are forgot in calms.

English Proverb

You cannot live on other people's promises, but if you promise others enough, you can live on your own.

Mark Caine

A promise is binding in the inverse ratio of the number to whom it is made.

Thomas De Quincey

Promises are not to be kept, if the keeping of them would prove harmful to those to whom you have made them.

Cicero

Better break your word than do worse in keeping it.

Thomas Fuller

## THE THINGS THEY SAY ABOUT PROMISES

We promise much to avoid giving little.

Vauvenargues

Who promises much and does little dines a fool on hope.

German Proverb

To make a vow for life is to make oneself a slave.

Voltaire

A promise made is a debt unpaid.

Robert W. Service

The best way to keep one's word is not to give it.

Napoleon Bonaparte

The vow that binds too strictly snaps itself.

Alfred Tennyson

To promise not to do a thing is the surest way in the world to make a body want to go and do that very thing.

Mark Twain

He that promises too much means nothing.

Thomas Fuller

Promise, large promise, is the soul of an advertisement.

Samuel Johnson

David Gunston

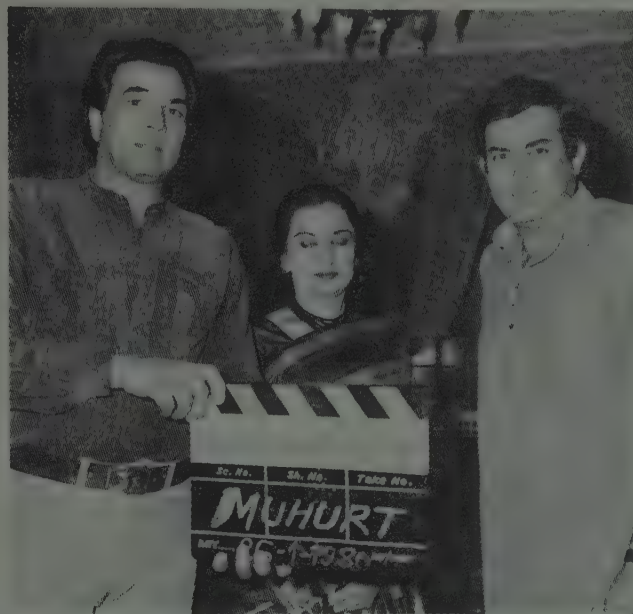
## FRANKLY SPEAKING

Devi

### Meeting The GREATEST

Raj Bhatija, with wife Nirmal, is jumping up the social ladder, but professionally he is still fighting against odds to reach the top. His "Gazab" had a multistarrer cast, a starrier muhurat and a dazzling party (at Centaur).

But that was the beginning and the end. So, for their "Maang Sajado Meri" muhurat they cut out the party and decided to play it modest. The clapper boy was Dharam. He was the clapper boy of "Gazab" too, but dropped out because I was to be there. As a result, Raj Bhatija dropped me out of the party. The result was neither Dharam nor I was there. This time Dharam came to give clap. I was there too, but the occasion began as a non-starter. The studio labour refused to work on Republic Day. After hot arguments on the cool, air-conditioned Seth Studio floor, they allowed the lights on, for a single muhurat shot.



Asha looked thin, Bindya sported two plaits and Bindu an ear to ear smile. Later, I shifted to Shakti Samanta's office. Sujit Kumar, journalist Devendra Kumar, and one Mr. Milan from Rome were all there. The morning was crisp and cool, when entered Dharam with his son, Sunny. He shook hands with all and pushed forward his son to me. He could not have thought of a better dove of Peace. The boy is too cute and he wiped off every faint trace of old wounds. After two years I was with Dharam again. He has two extra lines below his eyes, but speaks fluent English.

Now this Englishified Dharam is surely not Hema's home-work. I believe he was tutored by Pearl Padamsee. So, henceforward all encounters with Dharam will be strictly verbal, preferably in English.

Jackie Milan was trying to coax Dharam to watch Muhammad Ali's fight. Some other touts wanted to know how many film people would like to attend Ali's functions. One even suggested to me to throw a party for Ali, financed by him.

"Why should I?" I asked. "Enough of this Indian hospitality. Top columnists in New York do not go throwing parties for visiting V.I.Ps and when our show people go there, not even the chauffeur of a celebrity entertains them".

"You send your son," I told Dharam, "to have a look at Ali. You are a star, I a journalist, we should meet people, not see them." Anyway, next day Ali stood in an open car, waving to crowds who were not there. By night he managed some Allah Allah crowd to line up around the illuminated Darga at Mahim at his father-in-law's cost. His wife Veronica's father had his pocket picked, many of the visiting team lost their loose dollars.

He interviewed me. I happened to be standing in the lobby, he picked up a conversation like any other tourist with, "Do you speak English?" to finally end, after whirlwind functions, on questions like "Are you afraid of marriage?" "What kind of a man will you marry?" "Do you have a boy friend?" "If not, what are you doing in the night?"

Needless to add, while the Greatest showered me with compliments, I preferred to be in bed alone, with a king-size ego instead of a pillow.

# BOMBAY

Jaya Adya, a student of the H. R. College of Commerce held an exhibition of her paintings at the Taj Art Gallery recently. Mr. Padmanabh A. Mafatlal was the chief guest. Jaya, who started painting from the age of 7, received her formal training from Mrs. Namita Vaiude.

The controversial Supreme Court judgement on the Tukaram Vs. State of Maharashtra case involving the rape of a young agricultural labourer, Mathura, by a police constable within the precincts of the Desaijanj Police Station, is one that concerns all women. The judgement, which acquits the two accused constables, has been criticized by lawyers as an example of "cold-blooded legalism". In Bombay, a "Forum Against Rape" has emerged, which seeks to press for

a reopening of the case and for realistic amendments in the rape law, and to raise public consciousness about the issues involved in rape.

In this connection a public meeting featuring prominent figures from different fields as well as relevant audio-visual presentations, is planned for February 23, 1980, at 3 p.m. at the Cama Hall, Bombay. Further, on March 8, International Women's Day, a protest procession is planned. Women are urged to cooperate in both these efforts and to organize action on this issue in their towns and cities.

Nirupama and Ajit Sheth held a function to mark the release of their first Gujarati long play record, "Aankhe Kankuna Suraj Athmya", at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Auditorium. Also released on the occasion was an extended play record, "Koino Ladak Vayo". Mr. Gulabdas Broker presided over the function

# PEOPLE AND EVENTS

and Jaidev and Salil Chowdhury were the chief guests.

Hotel Oberoi Towers was the venue of the programme "From America With Love" performed by one of the best university pop groups in the U.S. Many popular numbers like the American India War Dance, the Slap dance from American Samoa, the Kentucky Clog, the Charleston and medleys of songs from Walt Disney films and Broadway musicals were presented. The Bombay performance was a part of a three-week tour of India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Kuwait, sponsored by Friendship Ambassadors, a cultural exchange organisation in New York City.

The Indian Section of the Ninety Nines Inc., an international organisation of licensed women pilots based in U.S.A. and the Indian Women Pilots Association, jointly held an essay competition to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Year of the Ninety Nines Inc. and the Bombay Flying Club. Mr. J. R. D. Tata awarded the prizes to the winners.

The Sonapur Youth Movement, formed in 1975 by a group of enthusiastic lovers of music, held its fourth Bombay Musical Talent contest at the Bhulabhai Desai Auditorium. The Sacred Heart (Santa Cruz) parish won the shield while the runners-up prize was shared jointly by the Holy Name Parish and St.



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1. At a cocktail party held to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of National Advertising are seen (from left) Mrs. Radha Jain, Mr. Yogesh Jain, Mrs. Promila Jain, Mrs. Walla, Mrs. Mehra, Mr. Vijay Mehra and Mr. Ashok Walla.

2. Members of the Ruchika Club, a cultural organisation, seen at a play, "Shatranj Ke Mohre", staged by them recently in Bombay.

3. At the inauguration of an exhibition of paintings by Jaya Adya in Bombay are seen (from left) Mrs. Namita Vaiude, the artist, Mr. Miheer Mafatlal, and the chief guest, Mr. Padmanabh A. Mafatlal.

4. At a Filmotav'80 reception hosted by Mr. Vinay Poddar in Bangalore, are seen (from left), the host, Malavika Nambiar, Mr. Richard Kaplan, a U.S. film producer, Mrs. S. Poddar, and Mr. Bhaktavatsalam.

2

Theresa's (Bandra) parish. The show was organised by Rev. Fr. Ernest Fernandes and sponsored by M/s. Ahmed Mills.

Mr. Vijay Merchant inaugurated an exhibition on Consumer Education organised by the Modern School with the aid of the Consumer Guidance Society of India. Dr. Munshi, the president of Samskar Shikshan Sangh welcomed the chief guest and Mrs. Bhanuben Merchant, Principal Modern School, proposed a vote of thanks.

India Book House has launched a new product — Management Programmes, on a set of ten pre-recorded cassettes. These programmes which cover a wide range of subjects such as managerial and organisational effectiveness, management of time, motivation, delegation, effective decision making, creative thinking etc. are of great relevance

to Managers, Executives, Industrialists, Entrepreneurs and training institutions. They have been scripted and recorded by three of India's high ranking management consultants — Mr. S. Rangnekar, Mr. S. K. Bhattacharyya and Mr. Arvind Deshmane, and organised and edited by Mr. J. Kher.

## CALCUTTA

The Air Force Wives' Welfare Association (Regional), Eastern Command, presented a musical extravaganza, "Illusions" at the Kala Mandir. The programme was ably directed and composed by Mrs. Srilata Katre, wife of Air-Vice Marshal Katre. The funds from the function were used for the welfare schemes of the Association.

A programme of dances and songs by the Young Ambassadors of the Brigham Young University of Provo, Utah, (U.S.A.) was held at Vidya Mandir. Several dances, like the Red Indian Hoop dance were staged. The highlight of the show was the "Cowboys and Indians" dance synchronizing slow motion ballet movements with excellent music and choreography.

welcomed the chief guest, and other guests at the gathering which included Mr. K. V. Srinivasan, President, All India Manufacturers' Organisation; Mr. P. Maruthai Pillai, Chairman, A.I.M.O. Madras; and Mr. Rama Naidu, well-known film producer.

## AHMEDABAD

The Allahabad Natya Sangh, affiliated to Bhartiya Natya Sangh, New Delhi, is holding its 13th All India Multilingual Short Play competition and Theatre Seminar at Allahabad from February 15 to 26.

The main purpose of staging such plays is to develop amateur theatre and to encourage amateur troupes in India. Free lodging and subsidized board will be provided to all out station teams besides usual railway concessions.

## MADRAS

At the Ideal Home Night organised by the Third All India Ideal Home Exhibition and sponsored by the All India Manufacturers' Organisation, Madras, film star Rajesh Khanna crowned Dolly Dhody as the Ideal Home Beauty Queen.

Mr. Markand Desai, Honorary Chairman, Ideal Home Exhibition, and Special Director of National Advertising Service P. Ltd.,



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5. Mrs. W. Coulson, Dr. I.P. Singh, Lady Maclean and others seen at the 15th annual lunch of the Women's Council of London, held at the residence of the Acting High Commissioner, Dr. I.P. Singh in London recently.

6. Film Star Rajesh Khanna crowns the winner Dolly Dhody at the Ideal Home Night organised by the 3rd All-India Ideal Home Exhibition in Madras.

7. Mrs. Saryu R. Nanavati, Chairman (ext. left) and members seen at a meeting held by the Lioness Club of Rander and Lion Ladies Auxillary in Surat, where sarees and children's clothes were distributed to Adivasi women and their children.



7

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## IF IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK:

You have had a difficult time during the past 2/4 years, but financial problems should clear by mid-1980. In fact, money prospects are rather bright and if you have worked hard to improve your position, your rewards will come. Above all, this will be a lively year and your enthusiasm, which may have been dampened recently, will be revived. Forget what might have been and concentrate on the road ahead. Should a relationship have ended, 1980-81 will bring other, more suitable links. If married, give every support to your partner — his stars are fortunate over a long period. Travel, interviews, a house move — all will work out well for you; be alert to opportunities in all areas of activity.

### ARIES

(Mar. 22 — Apr. 20)



The lighter side of life will be lucky to you in a practical sense. It is important to get out and around, to cultivate the more influential people in your circle. Friends and business colleagues could boost your prospects in unexpected ways.

### TAURUS

(Apr. 21 — May 21)



A time of minor achievement is ahead if you make the most of your chances and get yourself into the right frame of mind. Helpful influences will bring added drive and energy to carry you along. Be a little less cautious and take a more adventurous attitude.

### GEMINI

(May 22 — June 21)



A busy and fortunate phase when your time will be taken up with pleasurable distractions. If single, a new romance could hold you enthralled. Domestic as well as career matters are well starred and there may soon be important changes in either or both of these areas.

### CANCER

(June 22 — July 23)



Happy and loving aspects show in most areas of your life. New links will form, fresh plans will reach a peak of activity around your birthday. Don't let anything drift; get ahead with tasks. Travel stars are strong; there may be news from a distance.

### LEO

(July 24 — Aug. 23)



Life seems generally more light-hearted and lucky with several minor problems solved, paving the way for a fresh start. There are good trends in the affairs of your partner and other people close to you and any excitement will be through their activities.

### VIRGO

(Aug. 24 — Sept. 23)



Life will continue to be busy and skilful organisation is called for between now and mid-April. Try not to be upset by the thoughtless behaviour of others or to expect too much from them.

### LIBRA

(Sept. 24 — Oct. 23)



Relationships, uncertain till recently, will improve shortly with tactful handling. Meanwhile, don't be too sensitive. If you plan a shopping spree, next month would be better for your money sense may be awry for a week or two. Social life very promising.

### SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 — Nov. 22)



A week when you will get cooperation all round, with people easy to handle and loved ones showing you how much you are appreciated. Friends will be generous as well as helpful. This is a good week to shift money around.

### SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 — Dec. 22)



Good week for money matters and friendships. You could come to a satisfactory arrangement with a companion which brings profit later on. Keep track of your spending; you will tend to be too generous. Romance and social life are well starred.

### CAPRICORN

(Dec. 23 — Jan. 20)



You are in a lively, lucky period with the accent on communication. Make the most of opportunities that come your way; don't let things slide. Some useful information or a message sets you on a profitable trail, but be flexible, keep an open mind.

### AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 — Feb. 19)



Changes you have made benefit your prospects, make life more comfortable. The emphasis is on money matters this week, long and short term, and a new offer may appear or you decide to begin a fresh project. However, mid-March brings a strenuous period, bear this in mind.

### PISCES

(Feb. 20 — Mar. 21)



A busy week, with extra tasks sprung upon you. Sudden, inconvenient journeys will also take up your time and you tend to indulge in unprofitable activities. Life won't be relaxed until after mid-1980, but it will shortly become less harassing.

The rest of the evening passed mechanically for Reena. When the last guest had departed, it was past midnight. She sat on the edge of the sofa tensely, while Sanjiv relaxed beside her. The unpleasant incident of the evening made her realize how precarious her position was. In all fairness, she could not blame the man for thinking she was Sanjiv's mistress — 'plaything'.

Hadn't she risked everything, including her reputation, when she had made her decision? All the same, just now she missed the warm comfort of her mother's arms, and hot tears pricked her eyes. In her vulnerability she did not realize how closely they were sitting together. She had no will to resist when his arm pulled her towards him. She turned and hid her face against his chest, tears flowing unchecked. When he tilted her chin to kiss her he stopped short as he saw her tears. Not only that, but also the deep hurt in her brown eyes and the misery of her bowed head.

Knowing better than to ask her for explanations, he got to his feet, pulled her up, and keeping his arm around her, took her to her room. "Go and change for bed, Reena," he said. She did so doubtfully and when she returned to the room, he was blowing smoke rings in the air, lying on her bed. Quietly composed, she told him, "I'm all right now Sanjiv, you can go."

He sat up and pulled her down to sit beside him. After a long silence he said quietly, "What's the matter, kid?"

At the old, familiar term of endearment she almost broke down again.

Then in a flash she saw everything with startling clarity. With a new, deep sense of loss, she realized finally that her gamble had not paid off. She moved closer to him and looked at him with bleak eyes. As their eyes met, he too felt a tide of desolation sweeping over him and silently rebelled against the strange forces that were making him reject what was possibly the most perfect and unselfish love human nature was capable of. Almost desperately they kissed and clung together with a passion that was not destined to be fulfilled. He wished he could trample all that was fine in him and take what she offered; but he knew he had to be honest both with himself and her. For both of them a parting of ways had come.

She understood at last that he felt guilty about her youth and had convinced himself that he had no right to take it away, and ask her to spend her life adjusting to his moods and desperate drives.

With unusual morbidity she wished she could die, here, in his arms. Before bitterness engulfed her, she made her decision to leave him.

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