

THUNDER

ORGAN OF THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY

Hark the rolling of the Thunder
Lol the sun and by there
under
Beneath wrath, and hope and
wonder

William Morris

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PPP GENERAL SECRETARY JANET JAGAN IN XMAS MESSAGE SAYS B.G. ON

THRESHOLD OF INDEPENDENCE

I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS THE SEASON'S GREETINGS. IT IS NOW TEN YEARS SINCE THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY WAS FORMED. THESE TEN YEARS HAVE BEEN, PERHAPS, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT YEARS IN THE HISTORY OF BRITISH GUIANA. THEY HAVE BEEN THE YEARS OF POLITICAL AWAKENING. THEY HAVE BEEN THE YEARS WHEN PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS HAS BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE WHOLE AREA OF EXPLOITATION AND THE NEED TO END IT.

Complacency, the acceptance of a long accepted practice and custom, is an attitude that is now dying out. There is developing in Guiana now, a new dynamism, a growing surge to conquer the ills of the country and to build a new society, a new culture based on the fundamental rights of man to live a full and happy life, the feeling of the wide gap between the 'haves' and 'have-nots'

Today, as we stand on the threshold of our national independence we can see the great changes behind us, and the great future before us. Behind us, we see the funeral march marking the end of the rule and domination of a certain clique which has controlled the political, social, cultural and economic life of the community since the days of slavery. Behind us we see the fortresses of colonialism collapsing. And before us the bright future of a free Guianese nation, built and developing the wonderful resources of this beautiful country.

And who can deny that the People's Progressive Party played a dynamic role in all of this? No, not even

(cont'd on p. 11)

WATCH NEXT WEEK

For a thought-provoking article by the B.G. Students' Association at the U.W.I. The Association "has looked at the 'extremism' trend developing, in which Guianese tend to regard the society exclusively in terms of what can be got out of it, rather than what can be put into it.

Read this article next week in Thunder



Burnham Defeated

GEORGETOWN's next Mayor, for 1960 is Mr. Lionel Luckhoo. In Mayoral elections last Tuesday afternoon, Mr. L.F.S. Burnham suffered defeat by a vote of 6 to 5.

Despite many boasts that the City's affairs were being handled with a new look under his leadership, Mr. Burnham lost the support of his fellow Councilors.

Thunder pointed out last week that the council overdraft this year would be around \$600,000, while the limit allowed by the central Government was \$400,000. The road maintenance vote was being cut down and there was no estimate for new road works for 1960. This would mean reduced employment for workers. Yet rates and taxes were not increased.

But Mr. Burnham's rise eventually caught up with him. The result—defeat.

New Governor issues

3 P Call

SIR RALPH GREY, B.G.'s new Governor, arrived Tuesday morning on the "H.M.S. Vidal"

His Excellency was welcomed by Ministers of the Government and other officials, and drove to Government House. He then went to the Legislative Council where the swearing-in ceremony took place. This was followed by a Church service at St. George's Cathedral.

In his speech, at the Legislative Council, the new Governor hoped for 'Peace, Progress, Prosperity' which is quite in accord with the

policy of the Majority Party whose three Ps herald the same sentiment.

Replying to His Excellency's address, Majority Party leader Hon. Dr. Cheddi Jagan said in part: "You have come to our country at a critical period of its colourful history — a time when forces, hitherto latent but nevertheless developing, have emerged to play their part in the task of bringing for our people the fulfilment of its national aspirations.

"British Guiana, in common with all under-developed territories, faces many problems on all fronts. It has fallen to your lot to be placed among us, at this most challenging time, to share our cares and burdens, and also such good fortune as may come to us. We sincerely hope that during your term of office, we shall, with your cooperation and support and with your encouragement, overcome those obstacles and solve those problems which confront us in our march on the road to social advancement, economic development and political independence."

Dr. Jagan requested Council's permission for His Excellency's address to be printed and circulated.

FATHER CHRISTMAS WAS THERE

Roughly 150 children were entertained at FREEDOM HOUSE last Saturday afternoon at a Christmas Party.

Organised by the Women's Section of the PPP as an annual event, the party went off with a bang.

Each child received a bag filled with eatables, and there were sweet drinks, ice cream and other refreshments.

Father Christmas, standing by a gaily decorated Christmas tree, distributed toys to the kids who seemed to be having great fun.

The party owed its success to the Women's Section, and to the individuals and business firms who contributed toys, sweet drinks, etc.

GREETINGS

Thunder wishes its readers, agents, and advertisers an enjoyable holiday, and looks forward to their continued support in New Year.