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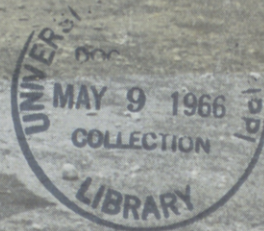
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BUILDING A NEW TRADITION

The old man stopped in the middle of the road and wiped his perspiring face. It was hot in the noonday sun. The chickens he carried were squawking.

It was market day in a distant village and the man planned to sell his flock. But undernourished and scrawny, the chickens were poor specimens as egg producers and their market price would not be high.

Most of the chickens in India look like that. Recently though, in a few parts of that vast country a new kind of bird struts around. Short and fat, with puffy feathers, these chickens act like roosters. They also command an increased price for their potential as egg-layers.

Peace Corps Volunteers introduced them. Taking the ordinary and skinny chicken, they penned it, fed it a proper diet and developed it into a fat bird. They also helped the farmer to a better life.

All over Asia—in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey—Peace Corps Volunteers are helping people adapt 20th century knowledge to ancient traditions to produce a better modern life. In agriculture, in education, in community development and many other fields, 1,500 Volunteers are sharing their skills so that people can look forward to a more productive future. This is one way to help old and honorable civilizations flourish in the modern world.



THE COUNTRIES AND THE JOBS

INDIA

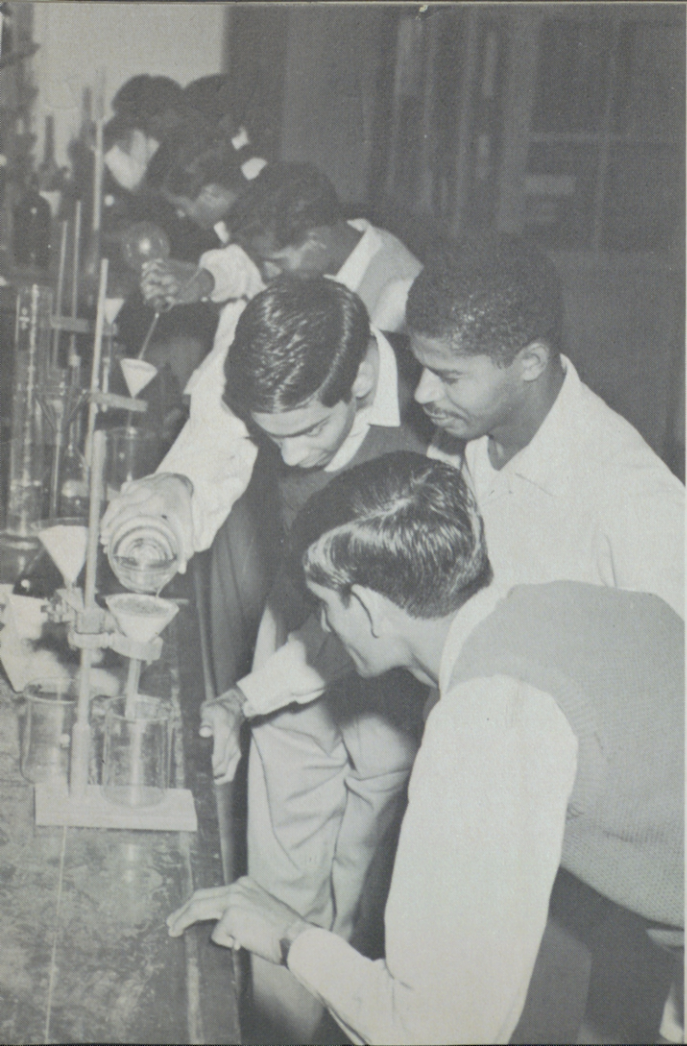
India is immense, and its problems are proportionately staggering. Now inhabited by more than 480 million people, its population swells by 35,000 a day. And more people mean more mouths to feed. In an attempt to alleviate this burden on India's unmechanized system of food production, more than half the Peace Corps Volunteers serving in this country are involved in agricultural work, mainly poultry production. The challenge of working with villagers in setting up farms, raising chickens, increasing egg production and marketing the products has made the Volunteer an important part of India's efforts to increase her standard of living and her nutrition. From modest beginnings, the Peace Corps poultry project has mushroomed until today Volunteers are working with close to a quarter of a million laying hens.

Peace Corps Volunteers in India are working also in education, teaching English, mathematics and science to hundreds of students, and serving as nurses, mechanics and assistants in small industries.

PAKISTAN

In Pakistan, the world's most populous Moslem nation, Peace Corps energies are mainly directed to public works projects to improve conditions in rural areas. Volunteers are working on







flood control devices, pure water wells, irrigation systems, cyclone storm shelters, school dispensaries and public buildings. Engineers and construction aides are planning, designing and directing these projects in both the Eastern and Western provinces of the country.

A large group of Peace Corps Volunteers in Pakistan is engaged in agricultural extension. Although Pakistan has fertile soil and adequate water, the productivity of the land is among the world's lowest. Since the introduction of proper agricultural practices could help alleviate this situation, Peace Corps Volunteers are showing Pakistani farmers how to increase crop yields in rice, wheat, cotton and sugar cane.

Other Volunteers in Pakistan are involved in nursing, forestry and secretarial work. As one Peace Corps Volunteer said: *"These are people who live on a handful of wheat a day, who often cannot read or write, and have rarely seen modern conveniences. We can help them in so many ways because while we are struggling for perfection, they are struggling to live."*

NEPAL

High in the Himalayas, the kingdom of Nepal is remote and isolated. Peace Corps Volunteers are bringing part of the modern world by teaching English, mathematics and science, and





the cooperative action of self-government. Throughout the country, community development Volunteers travel to small towns and villages encouraging the growth of Panchayats, the grass-roots popularly-elected units of government. This work takes the form of helping villagers decide what public works projects they need, such as roads, schools, bridges and health facilities, and then determining how local resources can best be marshalled to do the job. Peace Corps foresters are also aiding the government by determining the extent of this natural resource. In pilot project nurseries, they are experimenting with a variety of seedlings to produce fast-growing, sturdy trees to cover denuded and eroded hillsides.

AFGHANISTAN

In Afghanistan, 180 Peace Corps Volunteer teachers, doctors, nurses, rural community development workers, public administration aides and general mechanics are introducing their skills in classrooms, offices and industries.

Since most Afghan secondary students study English, Peace Corps Volunteer teachers are specializing in this subject in schools in the capital city of Kabul and the provinces. Six Volunteers are also teaching at Kabul University.

To modernize and unify the central and regional bookkeeping systems, Peace Corps Volunteer accountants are working with government civil servants. On the distaff side, Afghan women







are emerging from their traditional veiled seclusion and Volunteer secretaries and nurses are energetically up-grading their counterparts, commercial skills and professional status. Recently, nine Volunteers marked the beginning of Peace Corps involvement in Afghanistan's rural development program by starting work on village construction projects. In a parallel effort, other Volunteers are assisting in irrigation canal construction and in training Afghan mechanics in the maintenance and repair of vehicles and other machinery.

IRAN

Agriculture, education and community development are the Peace Corps' principal concerns in Iran, a land of desert and mountains almost as large as Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California combined. To help develop industrial skills, Peace Corps Volunteers are helping Iranian students learn auto mechanics, woodworking, machinery repair and electricity in vocational schools around the country. Other Volunteers are teaching English on the secondary and university level.

In the villages of the Iranian hinterland, rural community development and agricultural extension Volunteers are involved in sanitation, animal and poultry husbandry, adult education, school and road construction and irrigation.



TURKEY

Linking Europe and Asia, the republic of Turkey claims 650 Volunteers in her cities and villages. One reason for the substantial size of this Peace Corps program is a recognition by the Turkish government of the diplomatic, commercial and scientific value of English. Thus the demand by high school, university and other students for teachers of this language far exceeds Turkey's limited supply. Today, Volunteer teachers are easing this shortage by reaching more than 100,000 pupils.

Throughout rural Turkey, as in the rest of Asia, change takes place at a measured pace. To accelerate the progress of small hamlets, Volunteers are part of mobile teams traversing the countryside to show villagers the basics of masonry, carpentry, metal working, sewing, nutrition and child care.

The Peace Corps is also pioneering a public health program in the slums of Ankara with Hacettepe Medical Center, one of the most dynamic institutions in Turkey. Volunteer doctors, dentists, physiotherapists, medical record librarians and dieticians teach at the medical center. Community development workers live in the slums, focusing their efforts on sanitation, child care and health instruction for their Turkish neighbors. Other Volunteers throughout the country are involved in this type of community education as nursing instructors, home economists, nursery school teachers and social workers.





AN AREA OF DIVERSITY

From the lofty Himalayan peaks in Nepal to the teeming cities of India, Asia is a land of contrasts. Within her confines 56 per cent of the world's population lives in an area that occupies 29 per cent of the earth's land mass.

A continent rich in tradition and history, where civilization dates back 6,000 years, Asia's culture has greatly influenced the Western world. Turkey, the land of ancient Troy, is the home of such Christian landmarks as Tarsus, Ephesus and Antioch. India with over one-seventh the world's population has nurtured an ancient heritage that gave birth to Arabic numerals, the decimal system and the weaving of cotton textiles. The Rubaiyat by the poet-astronomer Omar Khayyam was but one of Iran's contributions to the literature of Western civilization.

At one time inaccessible to the West except by sea routes, mountainous Asia developed in isolation. In fact, until 1951 the kingdom of Nepal was virtually closed to the outside world. In a major effort to modernize economic, social and political systems to keep pace with the 20th century, Asia has opened her doors to the Western world. Today, Peace Corps Volunteers are at work across the continent from Turkey to East Pakistan.

Although the differences in these countries are great, they all share an agrarian based economy that produces a subsistence



level of life for their millions of inhabitants. Technology and industrialization are slowly inching their way in these countries but in most cases are limited to major cities. In the future, as Asia's people adapt, more and more of her millions will be employed in the development of this sector of the economy.

India and Pakistan are known for their sub-tropical climate. Vast inland areas become ovens under the summer sun; hot air rises and moisture laden monsoons sweep from the ocean to fill the void, creating forests and bringing water to rice-bowl lands. Afghanistan, Turkey and Nepal have cooler climates with temperate elements and more definite seasons. Iran has some characteristics of both.

Religion also shapes the nature of life in Asia. Pakistan, once part of British-governed India, was created in 1947 as a homeland for the sub-continent's Moslems. Today it is a nation of 98 million people, geographically divided by 1,000 miles of India, but strongly united by ties of common religion and culture. Further ethnic and tribal division within Asia has yielded numerous local dialects and languages. In India alone, there are over 165 distinct regional dialects.







Asia is a changing world. Cosmopolitan cities such as Istanbul are replacing untouched capitals such as Katmandu; the majesty and serenity of the Taj Mahal stands remotely against the poverty and clamor of Agra; veiled women residing in rural Turkey give way to young girls attending modern universities in Western clothes.

Asia is a continent awaking to the modern world. And the Peace Corps' assignment is to help ease the transition from old to new.

A MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE

Today's world is an interlocking one. Its future depends on people helping each other. The Peace Corps was designed for this purpose. As a Volunteer in Asia you have the chance to determine a part of man's fate. The responsibility is large, for as one Volunteer said, *"If we fail, who will take our place? Who will return to help these people whom we have grown to love?—For the harvest is ready and the workers are few."*

Serving with the Peace Corps in Asia is your chance to play a part in the world's struggle for a better life. It is also your chance to learn a new language, a new country, a new culture. But most people don't join the Peace Corps for what they can get out of it. They join for what they can give.

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