

# THUNDER

ORGAN OF THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY

Hark the rolling of the Thunder  
Lo! the sun and lo there  
under  
Rise th' wrath, and hope and  
wonder

William Morris

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## ONE PEOPLE, ONE NATION, ONE DESTINY

### Guianese History and Culture Week opens Monday

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT celebration booked to take place in Guiana opens on Monday, October 20. ONE PEOPLE, ONE NATION, ONE DESTINY will be the theme for the Guiana History and Culture Week proposed by the Minister of Community Development and Education.

The details of this historic occasion were worked out by a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. A. J. Seymour. The event is calculated to educate Guianese about their own country and inspire them to work harder for its progress.

It is the first time in the history of Guiana that such an event will take place. From the small beginning this year it is hoped that the occasion will grow into a mammoth national occasion.

#### Gala Events

Lectures, concerts, drama and art exhibitions will be held throughout the country. On the Corentyne Coast head teachers have made preparations for the occasion and, on the Upper Corentyne there is to be a Children's pageant.

In the city of Georgetown on the evening of Oct. 20 at Queen's College the Minister, Hon. Brindley Bean, will declare the week open. At the same time the Crane Medal Award will be made and there will be a Dance Pageant of the Guianese peoples with the Police Band. On the 21st the finals of the country-wide debating competition for the Patrick Darjan Shield will be held. Subject for debate is "That a proper national feeling is essential for the development of a backward territory."

On Wednesday 22nd there will be a Children's Pageant; on Oct. 23 the up-and-coming B. G. Theatre Guild presents at B.H.S. a Pocket Festival of Guianese Drama—the plays being: 'Pork-nokers'; 'Hassa Curry', and the reading of 'Legend of Kaieteur.'

The Week ends with a toast in music, the programme including a Medley of Guianese Airs and a piano arrangement of three Guianese folk songs — 'Iranime', 'Lumber man', and 'Satira Gal'.

During the week, 6 talks will be broadcast dealing with various

aspects of Guianese history and culture. One of the most interesting issues of the B.G. Bulletin has been produced carrying portraits of some of the heroes of B.G., also articles on Guianese music and composers, art and literature.

Guianese are invited to celebrate this event, to make it worthy of their country. Guiana, a country of peculiar problems, needs every effort of its loyal sons and daughters to make her free, independent and prosperous. Let the memory of those who fought

for Guiana in the past so inspire her sons and daughters that they may be willing to sacrifice for her. Let all with one voice echo the sentiments of Walter McLaurance expressed in the following lines:

O beautiful Guiana  
O my lovely native land  
More dear to me than all the world's  
Thy sea-washed sun kissed strand  
Or down upon the borders  
Looking out upon the Deep  
The great Atlantic blown  
Into a fury or asleep  
At morn, at noon—or better  
In the crimson sunset's glow  
I love thee, O I love thee—

### Leasehold Good Enough

Mr. Jai Narine Singh's motion urging Government to revert to freehold grants to settlers in Land Settlement Schemes was defeated last Wednesday in the Leg Co.

Replying to the argument that farmers occupying freehold land have more incentive to work the land better, Dr. Cheddi Jagan pointed out that the clamour was not whether the lands given out were leasehold or freehold but "we want more lands". He did not see any advantage in reverting to the freehold system of tenure.

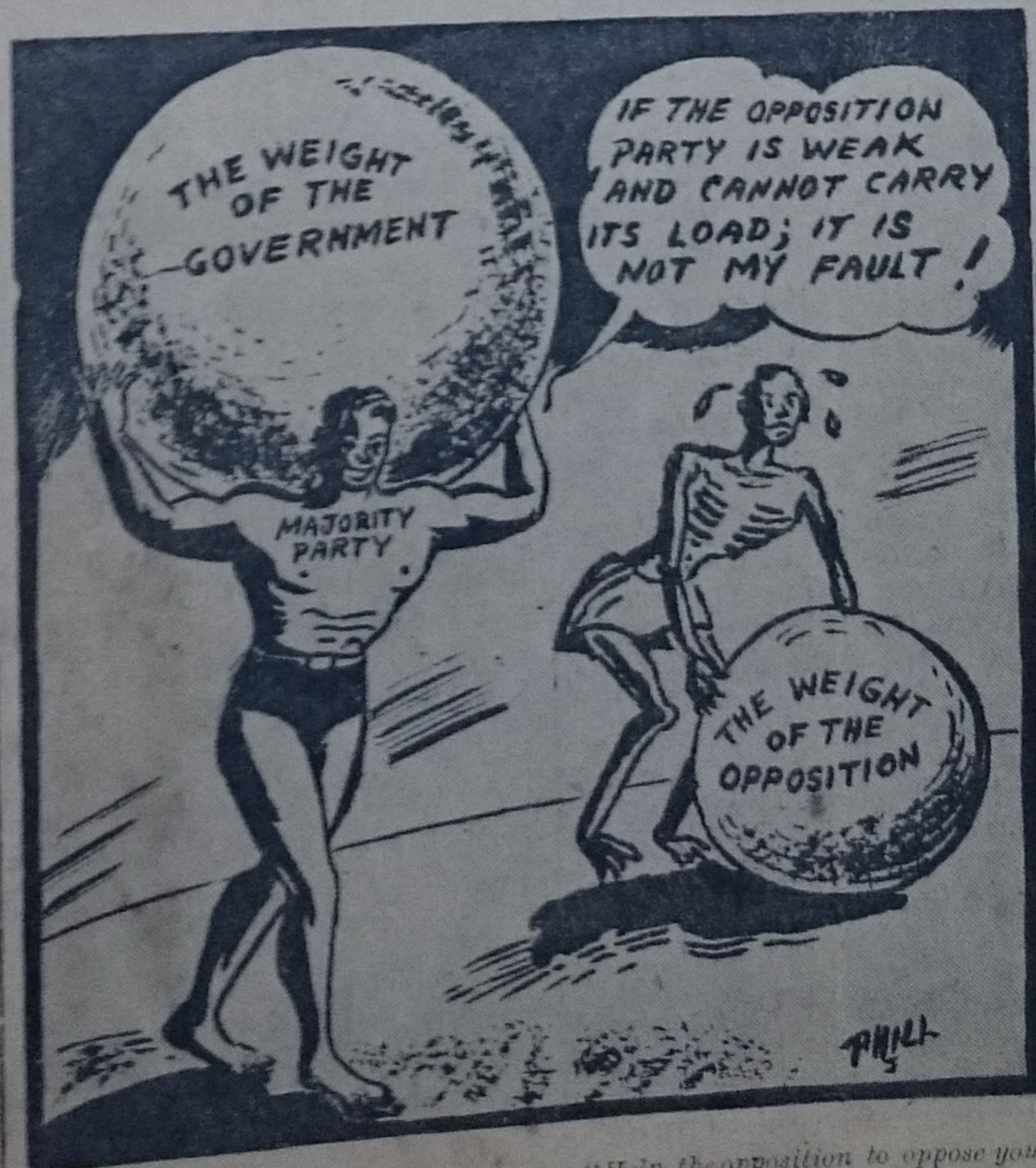
Dr. Jagan said that lands should be given to the tiller and not the landlord, and he should be given the right of perpetual renewal according to the law of good husbandry.

Hon. Janet Jagan declared that the lack of confidence in land settlement schemes did not arise from the question of tenure. Once the scheme was properly run to benefit the settlers, land leased for 21 years with the right of renewal was a satisfactory solution.

### Rigid Tests to Find 100

From 4,000 applications received by the Labour Department for jobs under the U.S. Farm Labour Scheme, 100 men are now being selected. Mr. F. Sykes of the Florida Producers' Association was in charge of recruitment and the selection process is most stringent. Those who are finally selected after passing the most rigid tests have been told that upon their good work will depend the return of the representatives of Florida Association in future.

The first selection of BG labour for the U.S. after a lapse of several years was the result of successful discussions held by Hon. Dr. Cheddi Jagan and Hon. Edward Beharry with officials in the U.S.A. during their recent money trip.



"Totalitarian" shouts the daily press. "Help the opposition to oppose you in their crazy idea of democracy."