

Double Loans

quarter, April 1 to
for annual lend-
3m for 1961/1962
for 1962/1963. This
approximately twice
ent years.

programme, the
the Corporation
priority to loans
and basic agri-
development. So far,

the majority of applications
are for urban and
housing.

The Corporation is pre-
pared to discuss with re-
spective applicants their pro-
jects for the establishment
of industry and is anxious
to assist such applicants
in the formulation of their plans
and to obtain any expert
help that may be required.

I'M GOING
WELL



Seizure of Private Property, Savings What is the Position?

Dr. Jagan, I am not a
member of your Party. You
may call me a friend, but
I am getting a little worried.
There is all this talk about
your Party being communist,
that private property will
be seized, savings will be
confiscated and generally a
reign of terror will be un-
leashed. Can you please
tell me exactly what is the
position?

I started out by saying
that there was no need for
fear. Fear of what, I asked,
—our aims and objectives
i.e. what we want to achieve,
or our methods i.e. how and
what we will do to achieve
our objectives.

I know, I said, that there
is a lot of talk about revolu-
tion, blood-shed, reprisals
etc. What we wanted was
political power. We are not
ashamed of saying this. Do
we look like blood thirsty
people? I queried. We have
been winning elections since
1953, and once they are free
and fair, we will continue
to win them.

By Peaceful Means

You must remember, I
declared, that we are a far
way from the Russian Revo-
lution of 1917. Incidentally,
much more blood was shed
and far more people died in
counter-revolution instigat-
ed by the capitalists after
the 1917 revolution.

How was socialism to sur-
vive in Russia? Trotsky
said engage in the world re-
volution. Stalin said concen-



STRAIGHT TALK by Cheddi Jagan

Leader of the P.N.C. He
deliberately distorted it,
to mean that having won
we will not have Elections
for the next twenty-
five years. What I meant
was, and this was very clear,
that the ideological develop-
ment of the masses and the
material achievements ac-
complished during our two
terms of office will be so
great as to ensure our suc-
cess at periodic elections
for the next twenty-five
years.

Iron Hand

Looking back over the
course of the last fifteen
years it should be clear that
it is against us in the P.P.P.
that the iron hand was used.
In 1953 an advanced con-
stitution, the most advanced
we were told, was given to
us. It was given on the

trate and consolidate at
home. Socialism is now con-
solidated in Russia. Indeed
socialism has grown into a
world system and is today
challenging capitalism on a
world front surpassing it in
certain fields. Even Khrush-
chov has declared that it is
possible to achieve socialism
by peaceful means.

Turned on Head

In British Guiana charges
are leveled against us for
wanting to destroy People's
democratic freedoms and
rights. Who, but we advo-
cated a Bill of Rights in the
new Constitution? I refer-
red to a previous statement
that if we won the August
Elections we would be there
for the next twenty-five
years. This statement was
turned on its head by the

premise that no one party
will be sufficiently deve-
loped by the time of elec-
tions to win the majority of
seats. Having won 18 out
of 24 seats we upset the
constitutional apple cart.
As soon as it became clear
that we were carrying out
our promises to the people,
we were, only after four and
a half months, thrown out of
office.

Gerrymandered

In 1957, for fear that we
would win the Elections, a
more backward constitution
than the one in 1953 was
granted. And to ensure our
defeat, the constituencies,
boundaries were gerryman-
dered. The result was that
I polled in my constituency,
the Corentyne, more votes
than all the five elected
members of the Opposition
put together.

After August 1961, we are
to have internal self-govern-
ment. Again we have seen
the hand of the gerryman-
derer at work. This time
it's a retired high court
judge in the person of Sir
Hugh Hallatt!

In the circumstances, who
are against democracy, who
are the ones using force
and are prepared to shed
blood, if necessary? The
ruling classes accuse us.
The accusing finger should
be pointed in their direction.
(Next week I will deal with
our objectives, our aims)

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