



**SIX YEARS OF  
NEPAL-AMERICAN COOPERATION  
1952-1958**

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# NEPAL-AMERICAN JOINT PROJECTS 1952-1958

- |   |                                |   |                                     |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|   | HEALTH CENTER                  |  | VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SCHOOL |
|   | MALARIA CONTROL                |  | DEMONSTRATION FARM                  |
|   | SAW MILL                       |  | IRRIGATION SYSTEM                   |
|   | HEAVY EQUIPMENT CENTER         |  | ADULT EDUCATION CENTER              |
|   | MINERAL SURVEY                 |  | INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER       |
|   | BRANCH TEACHER TRAINING CENTER |  | ROAD CONSTRUCTION                   |
|   | COLLEGE OF EDUCATION           |  | AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING WORKSHOP   |
|  | VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT CENTER     |   |                                     |







**A**LL the people should dedicate themselves, in a spirit of sacrifice to the great task of Nation-building

“TO RAISE production, employment, standards of living and general well-being throughout the country, thus opening out to the people opportunities for a richer and more satisfying life.”

This is the stated purpose of the Five Year Plan for the economic development of Nepal announced in November of 1956 by His Majesty King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev.

This comprehensive plan for progress undertaken by His Majesty's Government proposes expenditures during a five year period of about Rs 330,000,000 (\$70 million) with major emphasis upon transportation, power, village development, health, irrigation, forestry, industry, and education.

\* \* \* \* \*

What then is the role of the United States Operations Mission in Nepal? What is the purpose of its program of technical cooperation? How does it operate?

The role of USOM has been clearly defined by His Majesty's Government which has said that “foreign aid should never be regarded as a substitute for our own efforts, but as a supplement to them, enabling us to move more rapidly through the foundation-building phases of our own development”

The purpose is to be found in the General Agreement for Technical Cooperation between Nepal and the United States, signed on January 23, 1951,

## THE USOM PROGRAM

which states that the two governments will “cooperate with each other in the interchange of technical knowledge and skills and in related activities designed to contribute to the balanced and integrated development of the economic resources and productive capacities of Nepal”

The General Agreement led to the establishment of the Joint Cooperative Services, which provide for the financial, technical, and administrative participation of both governments, and which are carrying out projects described in this pamphlet

During the past six years, the United States has contributed over Rs. 4 crores 77 lakhs (~10 million) to the joint long-range programs undertaken by His Majesty's Government to provide a better way of life for her nine million people.

The USOM contribution is made in four ways

- ONE The training of Nepalese technicians abroad.
- TWO Procurement of demonstration and training equipment not available within Nepal
- THREE Assistance in the form of capital equipment and foodstuffs.
- FOUR American technicians or experts who demonstrate new techniques to be adapted by the Nepalese to Nepal's problems

It is hoped that this pamphlet will give a clearer picture of the projects and the progress which the people and Government of Nepal have brought into being.

The people of the United States are proud to be able to play a small but significant role in Nepal's overall effort



## FOREWORD

I AM very pleased to have the opportunity to write a foreword to this booklet which so graphically presents the story of the progress Nepal has made in recent years and the friendly assistance which my country, the United States, has been lending to Nepal.

During the period of my ambassadorship, I have not been able to make as many trips as I would have liked to your country. But I have been here enough times and have travelled enough through the country to see for myself what Nepal is doing in the field of economic and social development. Considering the long isolation of your country and the difficulties which have had to be faced in solving your many economic and social problems, I feel that the progress you have made under the leadership of His Majesty, King Mahendra, is encouraging.



This booklet concerns the cooperative effort of the United States Operations Mission in Nepal, working together with His Majesty's Government and the people of Nepal to stimulate economic and social development in a number of different fields.

For the first five years the United States Operations Mission in Nepal was headed by Paul Rose, who finished his assignment in August, 1958. Mr. Rose, assisted by a competent and devoted staff of Americans and Nepalese, did a fine job of getting the United States assistance program going. His successor, Russell Drake, who has had a wide experience in the field of economic cooperation, is continuing the excellent work of the Mission as the area of its activity expands.

People sometimes ask "Why is the United States helping Nepal? What do you expect to get out of it?"

We are helping Nepal, as we are helping other free nations in the world, because we feel that political independence is not enough, if political independence is to be maintained and safeguarded, economic independence must go hand in hand with it.

A strong and independent Nepal is a stone in the arch of world freedom and progress. We, and all freedom-loving countries, want to keep each stone in place, for each is as necessary and important as any other. To help Nepal make its contribution to that arch is reason enough for our assistance.

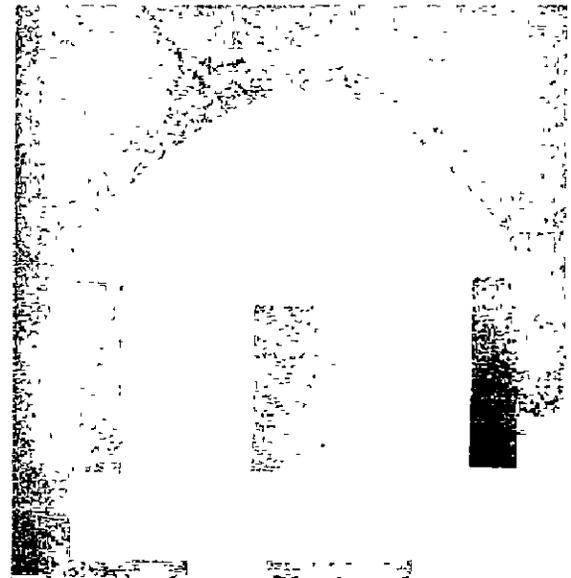
To a degree there is another reason. That is United States self-interest. As President Eisenhower put it in one of his speeches "We have wanted a world in which we might live in peace and confidence. And in striving toward that goal we have understood that to help others was often the best way ourselves to advance."

ELLSWORTH BUNKER  
United States Ambassador to India  
and Nepal.

... to help make life better for the farmer and increase the productivity of his land.

These are the two primary goals of the first joint program undertaken by His Majesty's Government and USOM, which led to the establishment in 1952 of the Nepal-American Village Development Program.

## **village development**





FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LIVES THESE NEPALESE VILLAGERS HAVE A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF PURE WATER



**ACTIVITIES** of the Village Development Program include: introduction of new and better seeds, encouraging use of fertilizers, installing hand-pumps to provide safe drinking water, building roads, organizing youth clubs, fighting malaria, demonstrating improved implements, constructing irrigation canals, improving livestock, encouraging the building of schools and libraries, improving village sanitation and giving immunization against diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and smallpox.





**ROADBUILDING** is a major activity of the Village Development Program. Since 1952, more than 150 miles of road have been constructed by villagers on a voluntary basis.



**THE VILLAGE WORKER** finds that frequent personal contact with individual farmers is the best way to persuade them to consider new ideas and adopt improved methods. Women Village Workers live in the village like the men, carry on a program which includes teaching the women how to sew and raise vegetables, as well as child care, diet, hygiene.



**THE WORKER** teaches new potato planting techniques to farmers. More than 150 varieties of crops have been introduced through the Village Development Program. New methods of rice cultivation have increased yields as much as 100 percent.

The key man in the village development organizations is the village development worker. Each worker serves 3,000 villagers. He lives with the farmer, giving him advice, encouragement and technical assistance. He teaches the farmer to recognize and develop his own resources rather than depending on the Government to do everything for him.

The village development worker, working through the village development center, can call upon the services of specialists in health, agronomy and animal husbandry, as well as administrative assistants staffing the center.

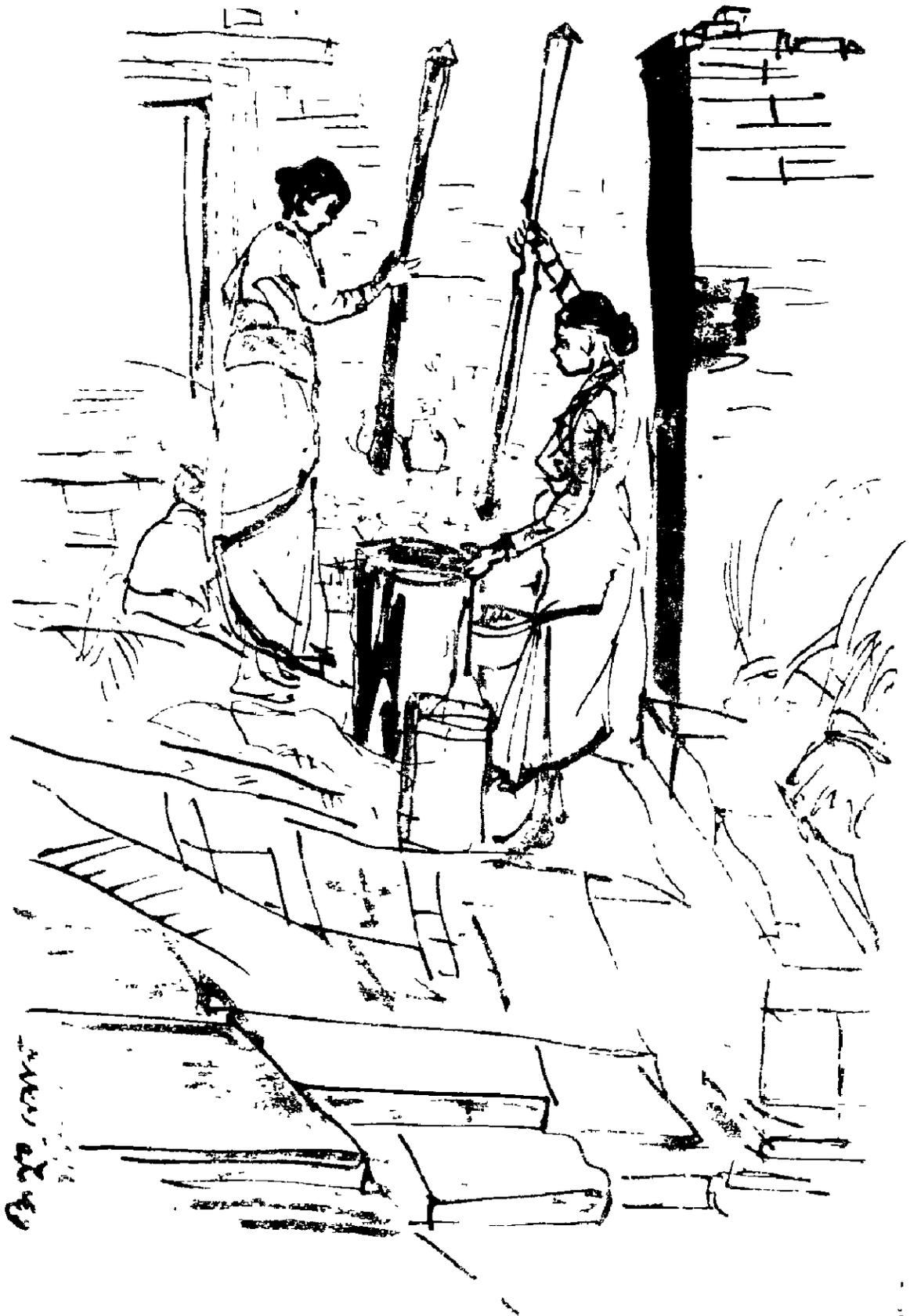
It is through all of these dedicated workers that the village development program is able to attack the many problems that beset the farmer





**VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT** workers are trained at two training schools (Kathmandu, Birgunj). Some 400 workers have come from their one year training course at these centers to field assignments. Training school for women village development workers was established in Kathmandu by the Ford Foundation in November 1956 and graduated its first class of thirty-two girls in November 1957.





3200 2014

**H**IS Majesty's Government has recognized as one of its most pressing problems the country's present inability to produce enough food to feed her growing population. The key to the problem lies in agriculture, which constitutes the means of livelihood for 90 to 95 percent of Nepal's people.

But agriculture is a complex subject—and solutions to the problems must necessarily be long-range. There are no miracles that can be wrought to change the picture overnight.

**agriculture ...**







**THE AGRICULTURE Program has introduced and tested hundreds of varieties of grain, fruit, and vegetables from abroad. Seeds that were found to give yields much superior to local crops are being distributed to farmers.**

Instead, there must be—as there is—a constant search for and application of new techniques.

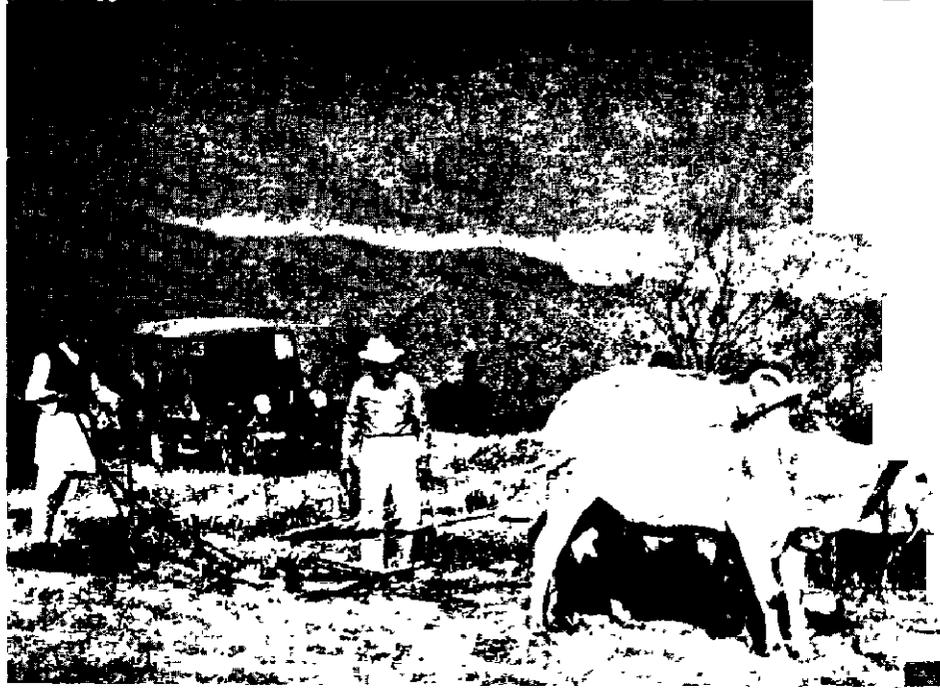


There must be—as there is—research devoted to such basics as the development of new and better seeds, the restoration of soil fertility through better farming practices and fertilizer, the improvement of livestock.

**EXPERIMENTAL** farms and demonstration tests have been established at 10 locations to carry out a research testing program which includes fruit and vegetable cultivation, improved methods of rice growing, irrigation, livestock improvement, fish culture, and forage grasses for livestock.



There must be training for agricultural specialists who can go into the villages with their new knowledge and skills.



A CENTER for training agricultural specialists has been established at Kathmandu. Men who have completed the course are assigned to village development centers as specialists in crops, animal husbandry or agricultural engineering.



This is the work that is being done in the Nepal-American agricultural program, by means of which the foundations are being laid for a long-range program aimed at increasing the productivity of Nepal's farms.

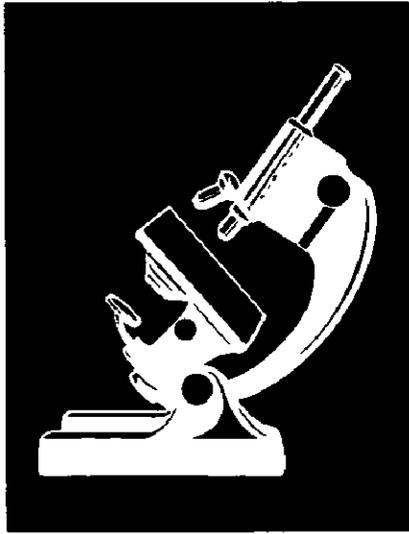


**INSECT PESTS** and plant diseases take a heavy toll of the crops in Nepal every year. This is another problem the agriculture cooperative service is working to solve. And a country-wide soil testing program is being conducted to determine what essential elements are lacking in the land that is under cultivation, and what types of fertilizers are needed to restore fertility.

**IMPROVED BREEDS** of dairy cows, sheep, swine, and poultry are maintained at the experimental farm in Kathmandu as part of a program to develop a strong Government livestock section that will aid the farmer by providing technical advice, improved animals for breeding, medicines and vaccines, seeds for forage crops, and other services.







**M**ALARIA, Kala-azar, filariasis, tuberculosis, leprosy, smallpox, typhus, cholera, typhoid :

A high death rate of mothers in child-birth—and a lack of trained midwives ;

Basic knowledge of the causes of disease known by only few ;

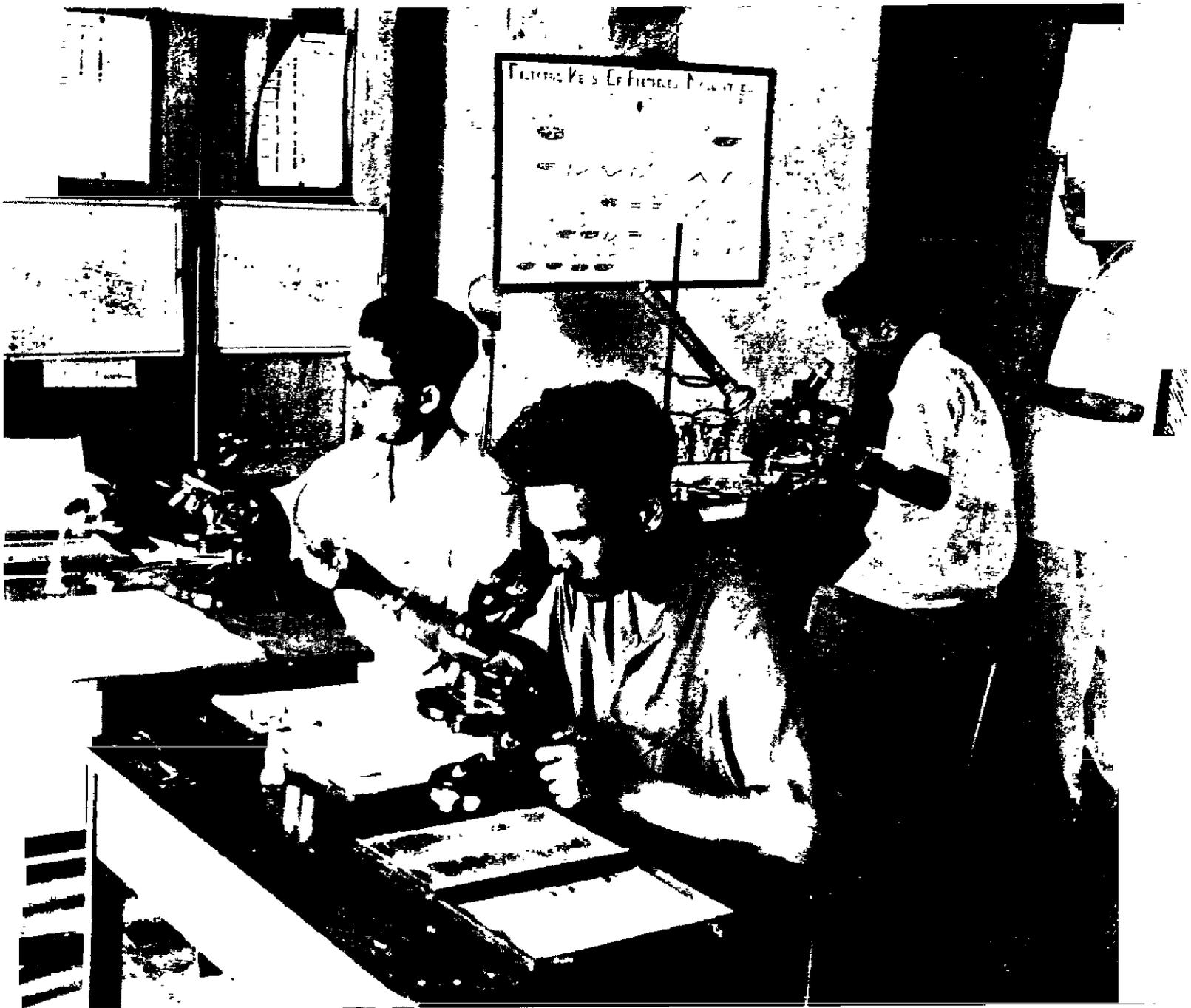
And fewer still who know the method of disease control and prevention ;

Only one trained physician to every 100 thousand people.

These are some of the basic health problems which His Majesty's Government is attacking.

In 1952, USOM joined in the attack by conducting a health survey. The following year, the Nepal-American Cooperative Health Service was established to bring united action to bear on the country's major health problems.

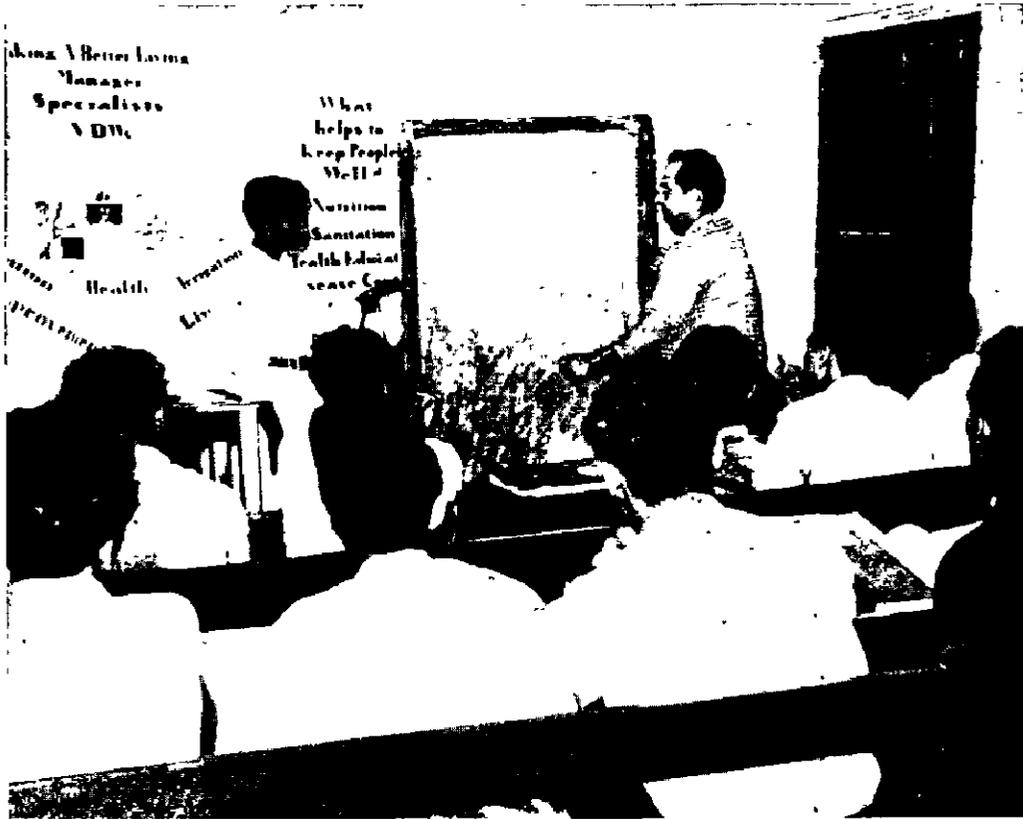
Since that time, the health service has important accomplishments to show for its efforts.



A MALARIA Control Laboratory has been established under the Bureau of Insect Borne Disease Control, and a program of surveying and spraying has been in operation since 1952. In 1957 and 1958, anti-malaria teams sprayed more than 146,000 homes with insecticide, giving protection to some 470,000 people.

**BEFORE** an area is sprayed, a survey is conducted to determine the incidence of malaria infection. Spleen examinations and blood samples are two of the techniques used to obtain this information.





**SPECIAL TRAINING** in sanitary engineering is given to young men who will later be assigned as sanitarians in village development centers. There they will teach villagers the importance of good environmental sanitation and how to achieve it.

**A BUREAU of Local Health Services has been established. Since 1954 it has trained a total of 18 health specialists for rural health work and assigned them to work in Village Development Centers throughout Nepal.**





A CENTER for the training of Women Auxiliary Workers has been established at Bitaura. Above, nurse with class of midwives. The women are taught the importance of proper diet and good health habits. Special emphasis is placed on safe techniques in home deliveries.

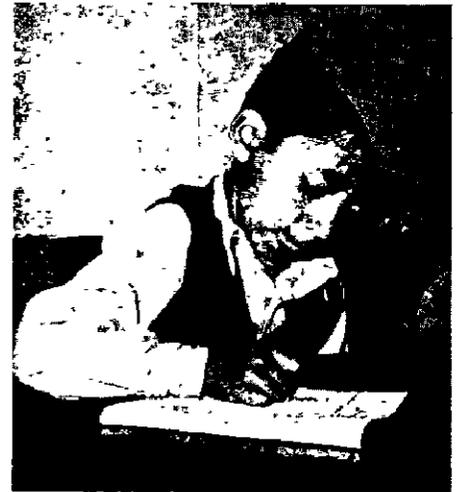


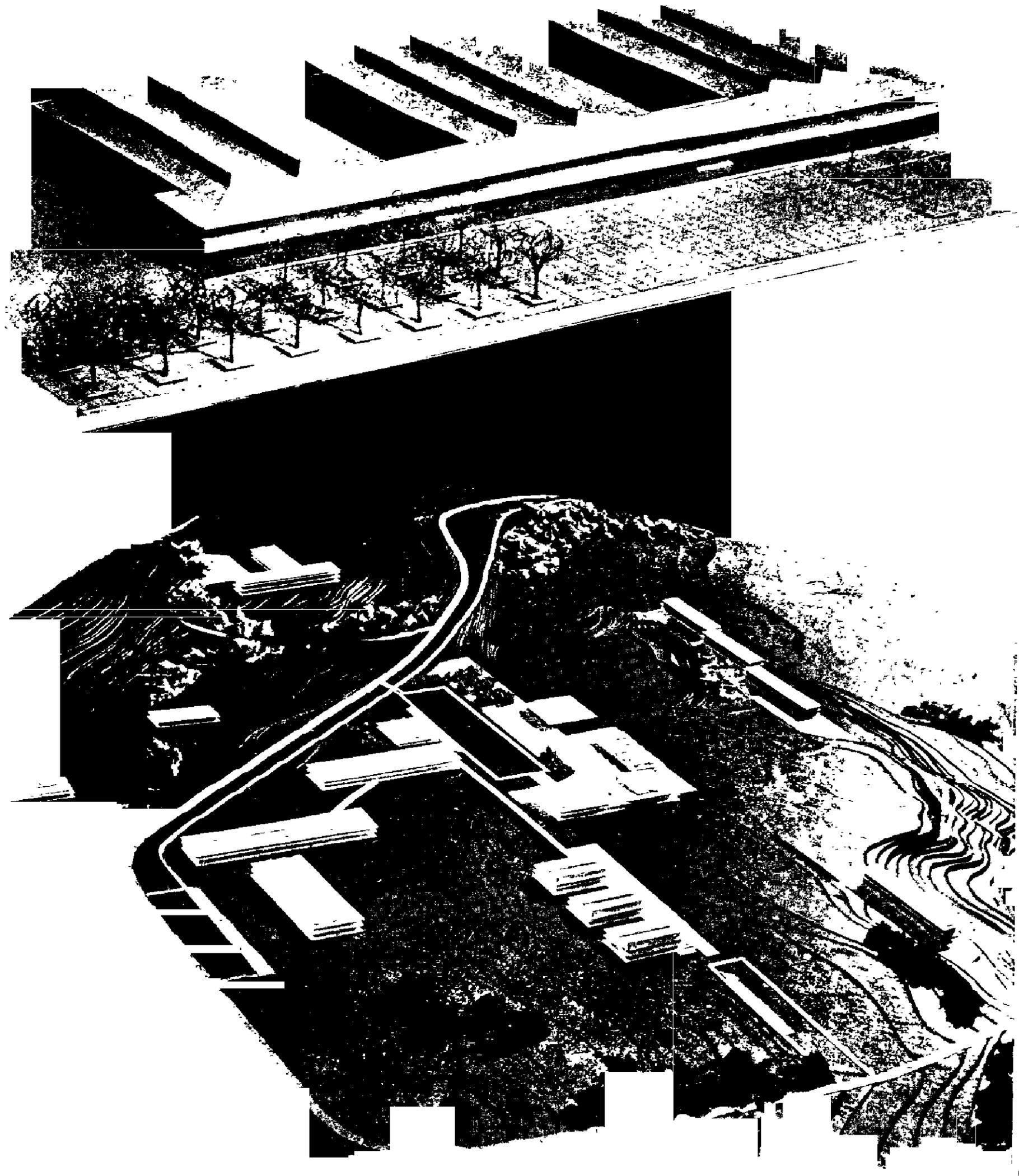
**N**OTHING is more essential to the maintenance of democracy—anywhere in the world—than a literate citizenry.

Nepal's revolution of 1950 opened the way for the establishment of a democratic form of government. But it also revealed that the country's educational system was in a

critical state

: over 95 percent of the population unable to read and write; less than 4 percent of the school-aged children attending schools of any kind; only one degree-granting institution of higher learning in the whole country.





To meet this problem, His Majesty's Government formed a National Education Planning Commission composed of 46 leading educators and laymen to recommend a course of action. In 1955, the commission issued a report outlining a scheme for education that included universal primary education, multipurpose secondary schools, a national university, adult education, and a teacher training program.

Much of the responsibility for carrying out this plan fell to the Nepal-American education program and the U.S.-sponsored University of Oregon contract team.

Although the plan is necessarily a long-range one, there has already been tangible progress.

**SEVERAL HUNDRED** new co-educational primary schools have been established all over the country, about 400 of which are "New National Primary Schools" financed jointly by the local community and the Nepal-American education service. A multipurpose co-educational high school, the first of several planned, has been established at Pokhara. These schools are designed to offer a wide range of training, including vocational training, to Nepalese youth. At left, model and aerial view of Nepal's new national university for which plans have already been approved and construction started.



Above, the National Education Planning Commission. Below, Commission members discuss model of Nepal's new national university. Cost of the university is expected to be met by contributions from the Nepalese Government, USOM, India Aid Mission, and private individuals.



TO RAISE standards in Nepal's colleges, some 10,000 books have been donated, graduate training has been given to 30 Nepalese educators at the University of Oregon, and approximately \$100,000 spent on equipment and supplies for the colleges. More than a quarter million copies of books and other teaching materials have been printed for schools, colleges, and adult education classes. A modern printing press has been purchased so that text books can be printed in Nepal in the future.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FACULTY MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED GRADUATE TRAINING AT UNIVERSITY OF OREGON.

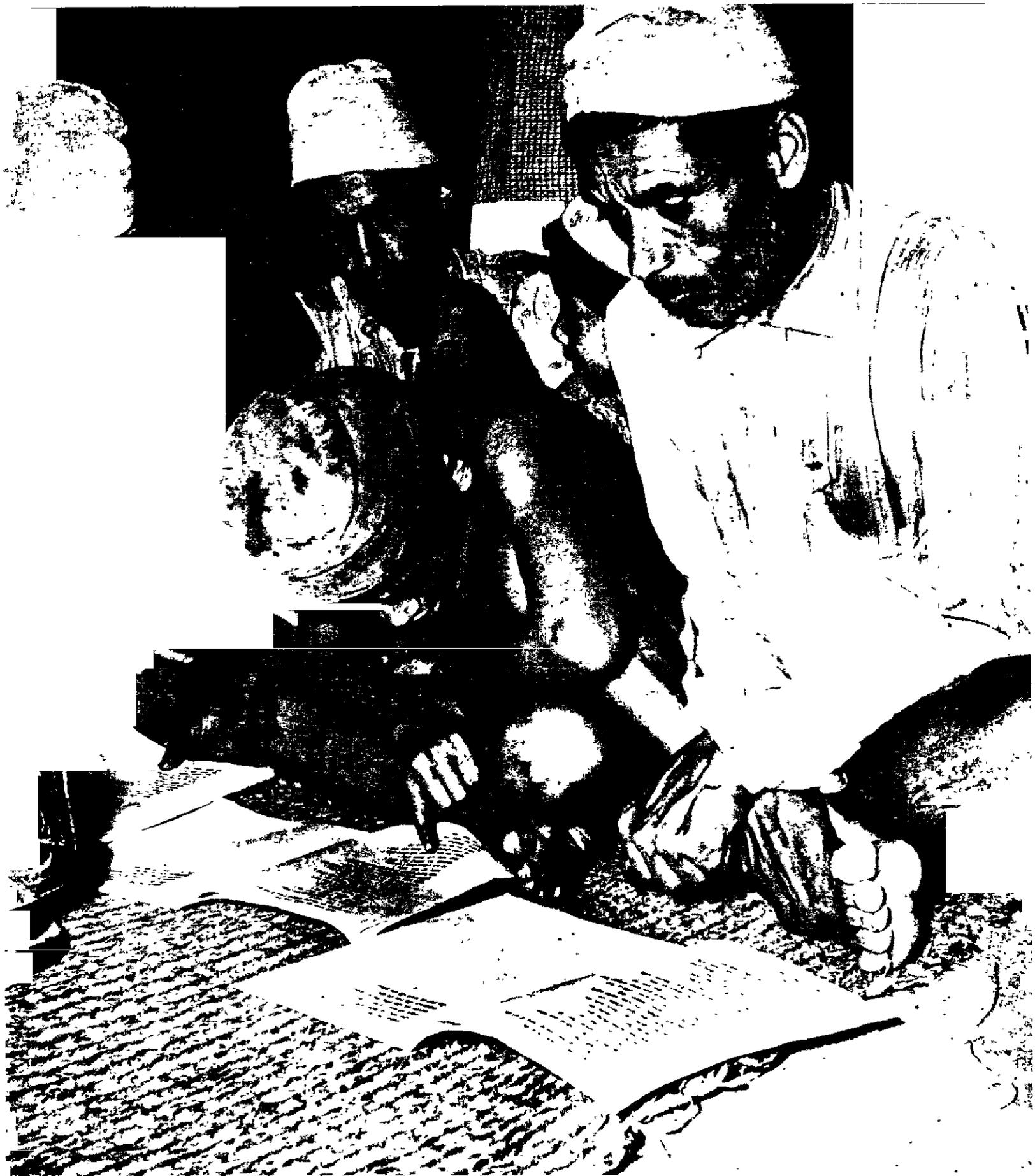




**ARCHITECT, BUILDER, AND SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSS PLAN FOR A NEW SCHOOL.**

**A COLLEGE** of Education has been established to train the teachers Nepal needs. Branch centers have been set up to give on-the-spot training. Since 1954, when the program started, more than 1500 teachers have been trained. In addition, some 300 adult literacy classes have been started. Here, adults who never went to school are learning to read and write.





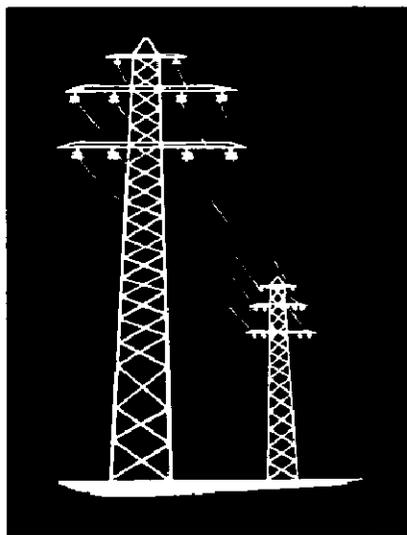


**I**N mountainous Nepal, the pace of progress is necessarily slow when the porter's back is the usual method of transporting goods from one place to another, and the mail runner making his way along narrow mountain trails is the only reliable means of transmitting information.

Roads, ropeways, steel suspension bridges, jeep tracks—these are the necessary first answers to the problems of transportation.

A radio-telephone communications network linking the major centers in Nepal—this is part of the answer to the problem of transmitting information.

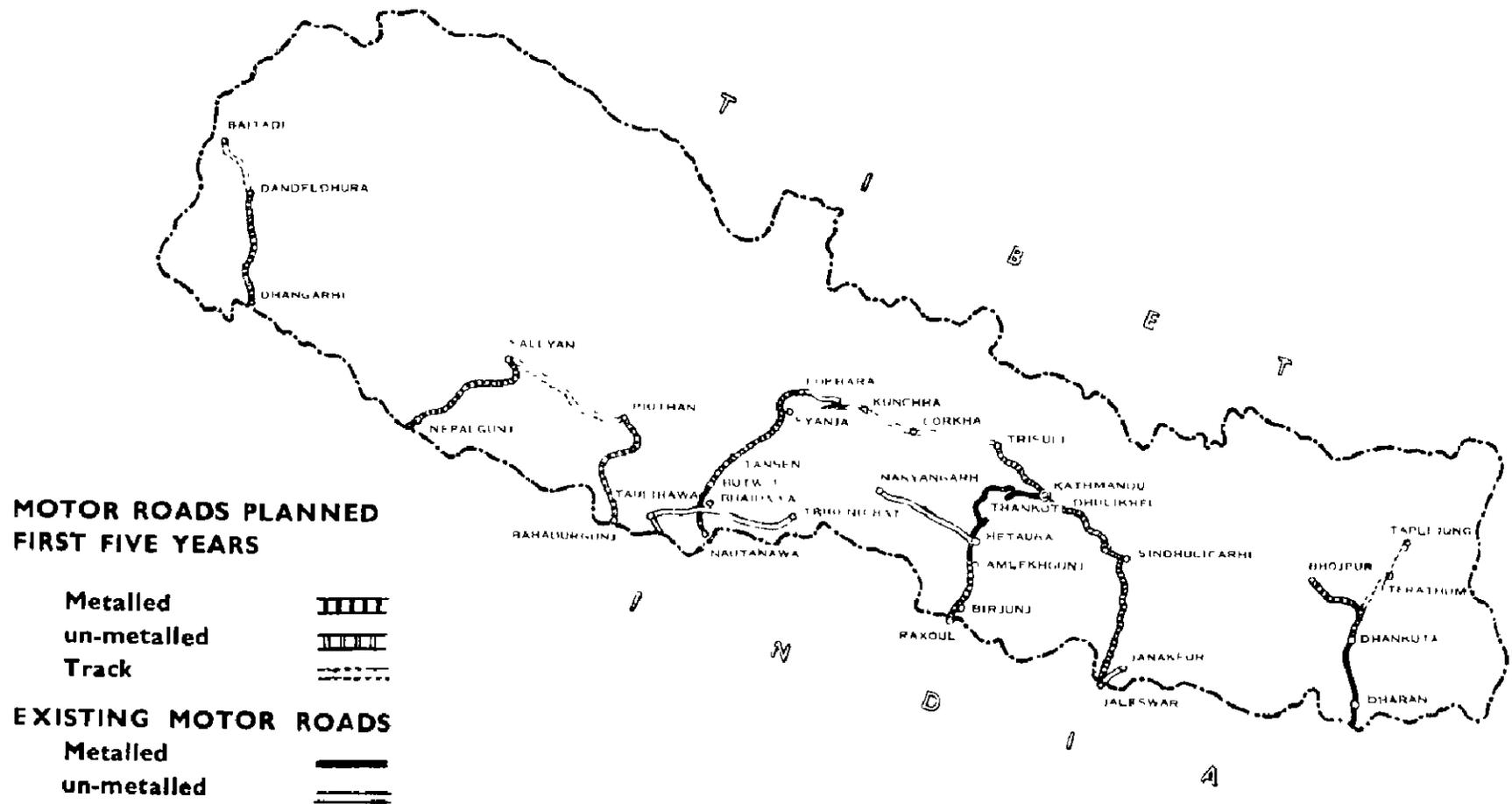
And these are the answers which His Majesty's Government, through the Nepal-American Public Works Program established in 1954, has undertaken.



**public  
works . . .**

IN JANUARY 1958, the Government of Nepal, the United States, and India signed an agreement to carry out a joint project for the construction of approximately 900 miles of motor road and jeep track in Nepal during the next five years.

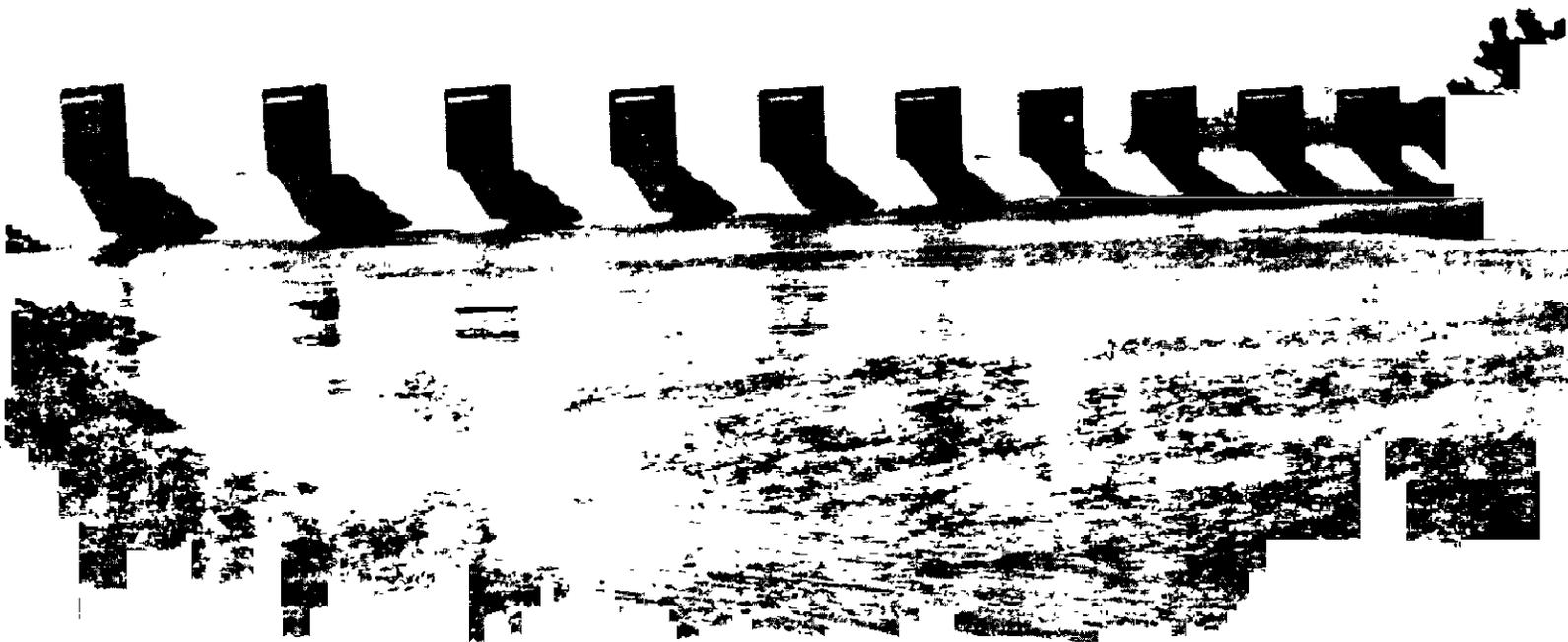
## REGIONAL ROADS PROJECT

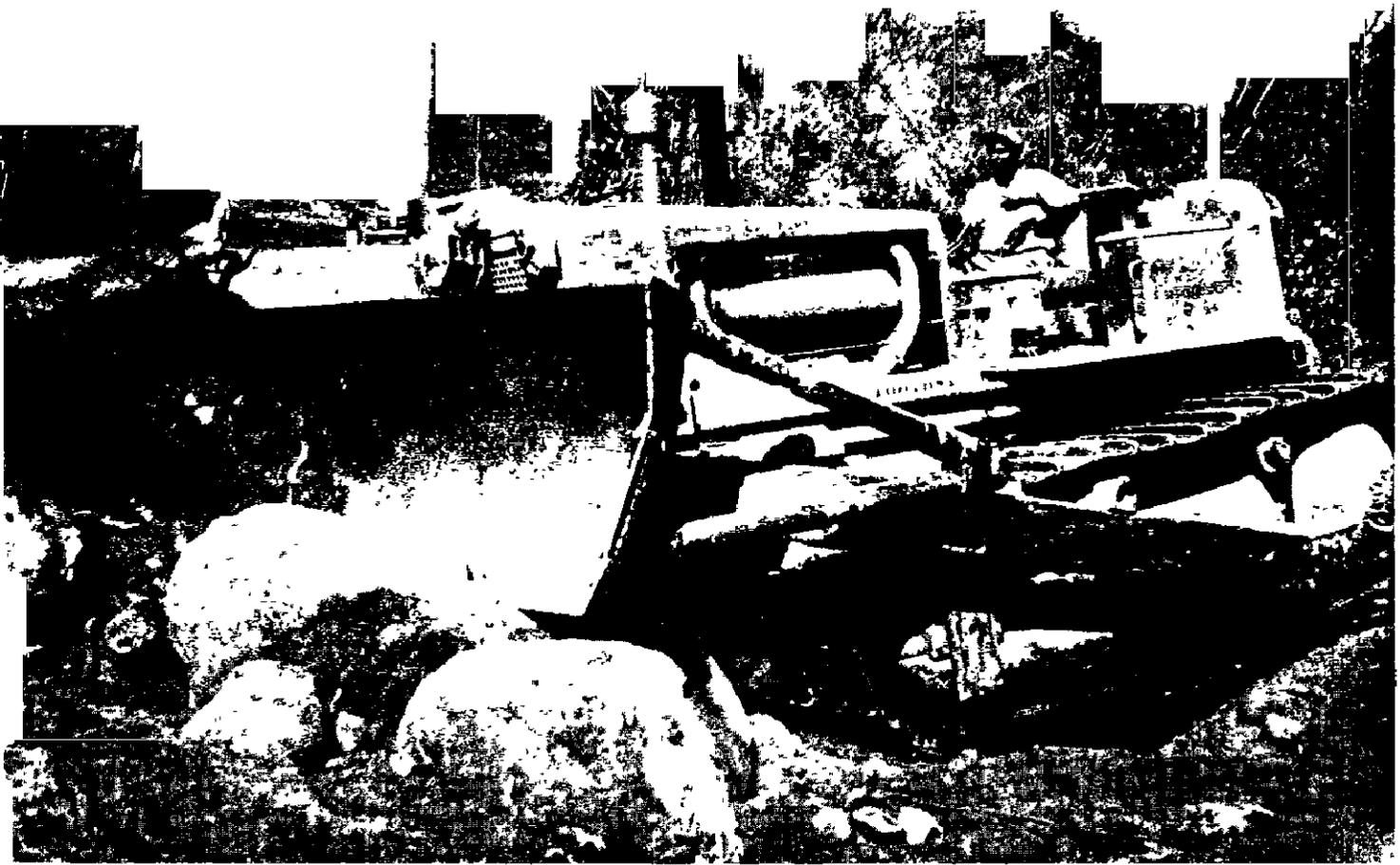




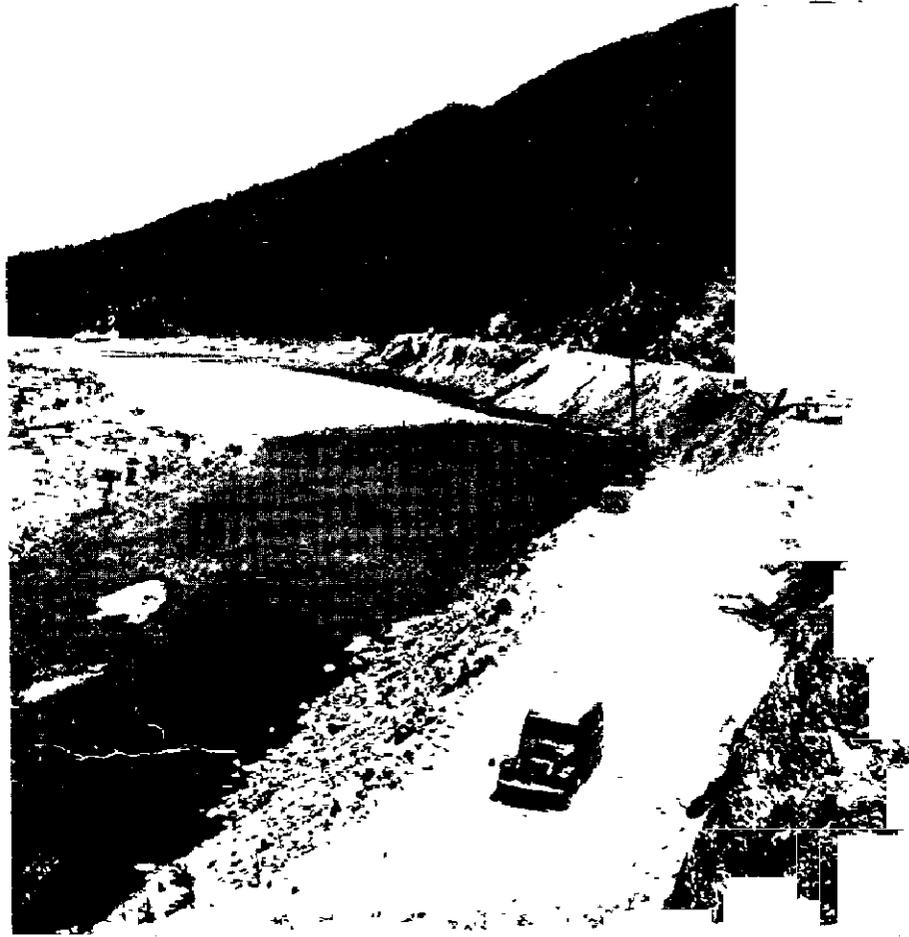


THE NEPAL-AMERICAN Public Works Program has completed three irrigation projects, which bring under irrigation some 21,000 acres of land just north of Raxaul. The projects include three barrages on the Sirsia, Tilawe, and Dadhora rivers, and approximately 60 miles of canal.





**THE RAPTI VALLEY ROAD.** Nepalese personnel working with U.S. engineers on the construction of this road acquired experience and training that helped equip them for future road building projects.





**MECHANIZED EQUIPMENT** was used extensively in the construction of the Rapti Valley Road. Many Nepalese were trained as operators.

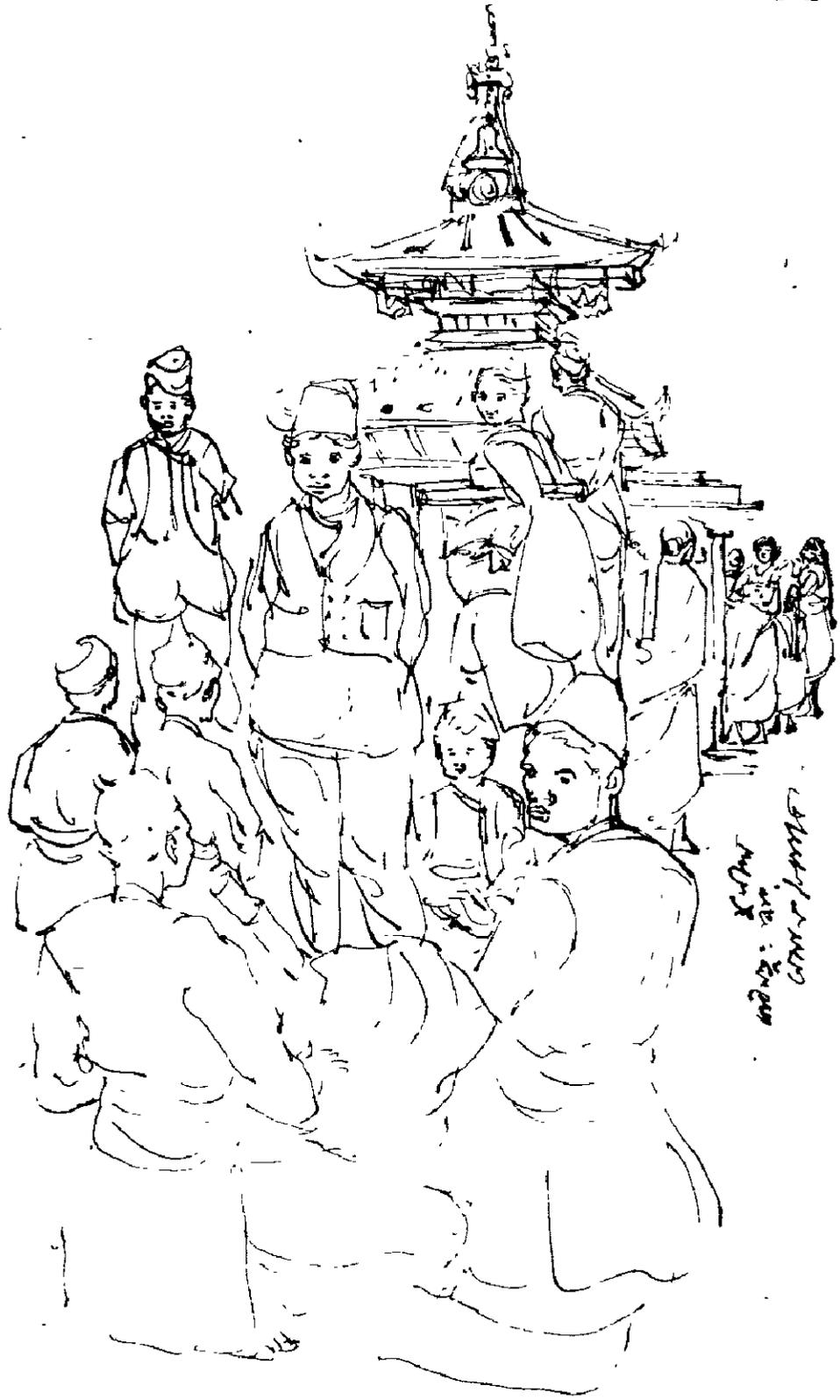


**REPAIR** and maintenance of the equipment is handled at the Heavy Equipment Center, Hetaura.





AT THE HETAURA CENTER, MANY NEPALESE HAVE BEEN TRAINED AS MECHANICS BY U.S. EXPERTS



Handwritten text in the lower right corner, possibly a signature or a note, written in a cursive script.

**T**HE establishment of new industries in Nepal would mean an increase in the standard of living for the people, new opportunities for employment, and the utilization of untapped resources.

The first mechanized industry was introduced into Nepal in the 1930's, when a number of small factories were established. But these enterprises which thrived during the war years closed down or sustained heavy financial losses after the war.

In 1951, there was a revived interest in industry, and His Majesty's Government determined to take steps to insure a sound program of industrial development.

In 1955, the Nepal-American Cooperative Service for Industries Development was established to plan and assist the Government in this field.

# industry...





IN 1957, an Industrial Development Center (IDC) was established at Kathmandu to study the economic soundness of proposed industrial plants, conduct raw material and market surveys, and set up demonstration plants where needed.

IDC members in front of the Center building. At right, an IDC job instruction class.



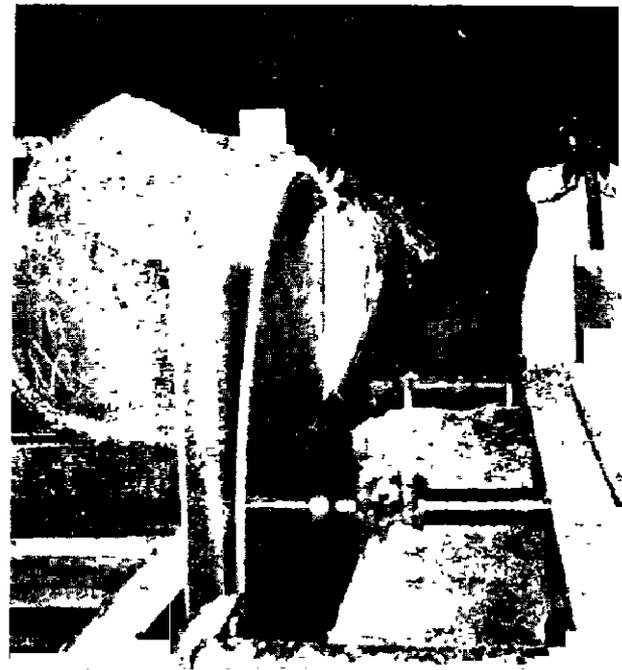
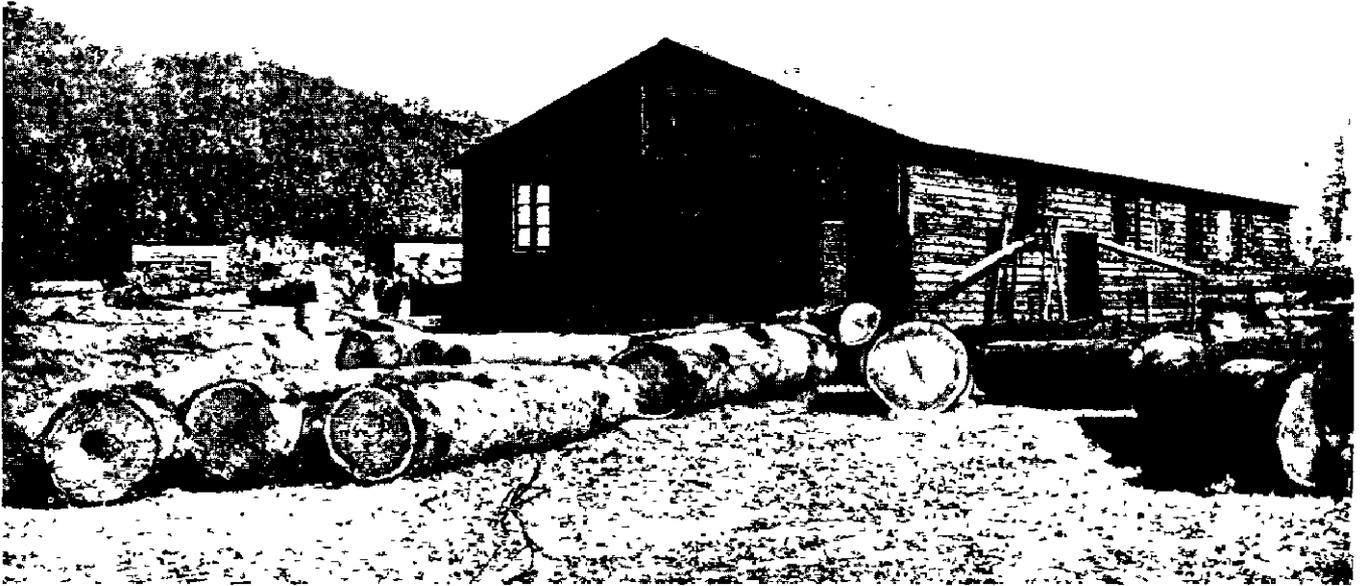
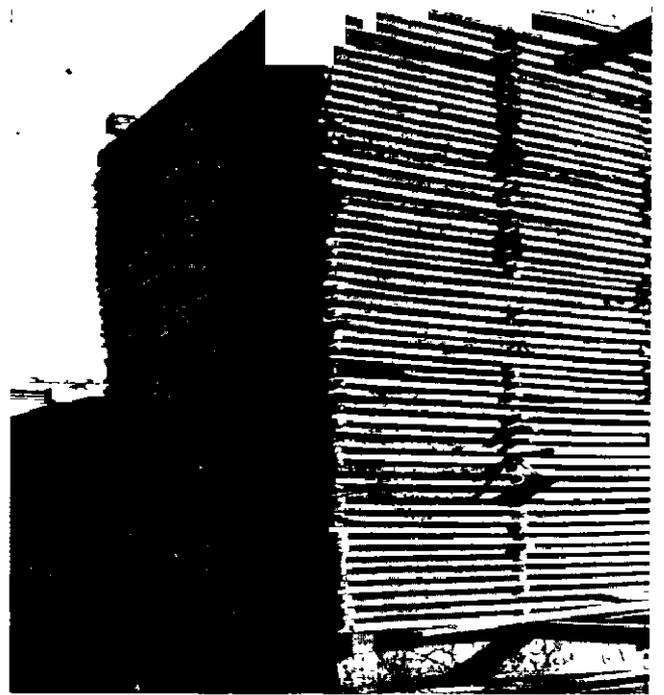
IDC and government officials confer with representatives of the jute, cotton textiles, matches, plywood, bobbin, and cigarette industries.



**THE INDUSTRIES** Cooperative Service established two small sawmills in Hetaura, the first machine-powered circular saw mills in Nepal. Plans have been completed for the organization of the Timber Corporation of Nepal, a public limited company open to private investment.



**AT THE HETAURA sawmills, primary emphasis is on training sawmill workers. The mills also produce quantities of lumber for bridges, housing, and other construction for the Rapti Valley Development Program. Equipment of the mills was purchased with part of the money given to Nepal after the 1954 flood from U.S. President Eisenhower's Emergency Relief Fund.**









THE extent of Nepal's mineral resources is unknown.

But for the past five years, survey teams of the Nepal-American Minerals Cooperative Service have been making field excursions, mainly in central and eastern Nepal, to locate mineral deposits. These investigations have been followed by more intensive exploration in the areas that show promise.

The minerals program has two other important aims: to assess the economic potentialities of all mineral deposits found in Nepal, and to train Nepalese in their own country and in the United States in order to produce a sufficient number of trained technicians to make possible the establishment of a minerals industry in Nepal.

It is a slow process—but an essential one to the future economic well-being of Nepal.



**NEPALESE** mining engineer and American minerals advisor examine coal fragments at deposit in Terai. Firearms protect against wild animals in the area. Much of the traveling that survey teams do while investigating mineral deposits is over steep, narrow mountain trails like this one in photo



**NEPALESE** and American mining engineers are now investigating a discovery that has future commercial possibilities: a deposit of iron ore, lead, and zinc located on Phulchoki Hill, seven miles from Kathmandu. The iron ore content of this deposit averages 56%, and it has been estimated that it could supply ore for nearly 100 years at a daily output of 300 tons.

The excavation site is shown in photo below. At left, using a motor rock drill, one of many pieces of field and laboratory mining equipment brought into Nepal by Minerals Cooperative Service to facilitate surveying the country's mineral resources.



**COLLECTING** iron ore samples' or detailed analysis and evaluation by minerals laboratories in Kathmandu, or in Washington by the U.S. Bureau of Mines.



**NOT ONLY** coal, iron ore, and lead and zinc, but traces of copper, mica, cobalt, quartz, and other minerals have been found in various parts of Nepal. In photo below, mining engineer examines seam of coal along bank of the Sakti Khola.







# rapti



# valley

“GOD meant for people to make their homes on this land. You will see, one day, the deadly malaria fever will be gone and the jungle will be cleared. There will be towns, roads, electricity, and my countrymen will till the land where the wild animals now roam.”

This was the prophecy of Major Bhakan Singh, a vigorous, 55-year old Gorkha veteran.

The land he referred to is the Rapti Valley which lies on either side of the Rapti River where it flows out of the mountains of central Nepal.

The prophecy is coming true today. On April 15, 1955, after technicians had surveyed Rapti Valley and confirmed the belief that it possessed great potentialities for the development of agriculture, industry, and forestry, His Majesty's Government determined to develop the area in order to provide land and a good living for thousands of Nepal's landless farmers.

The Nepal-American Rapti Valley Cooperative Service was formed to coordinate the activities of Government ministries, other Nepal-American Cooperative Services, and the World Health Organization.

And in the Rapti Valley, one can see projects representing the combined efforts of the various cooperative services.





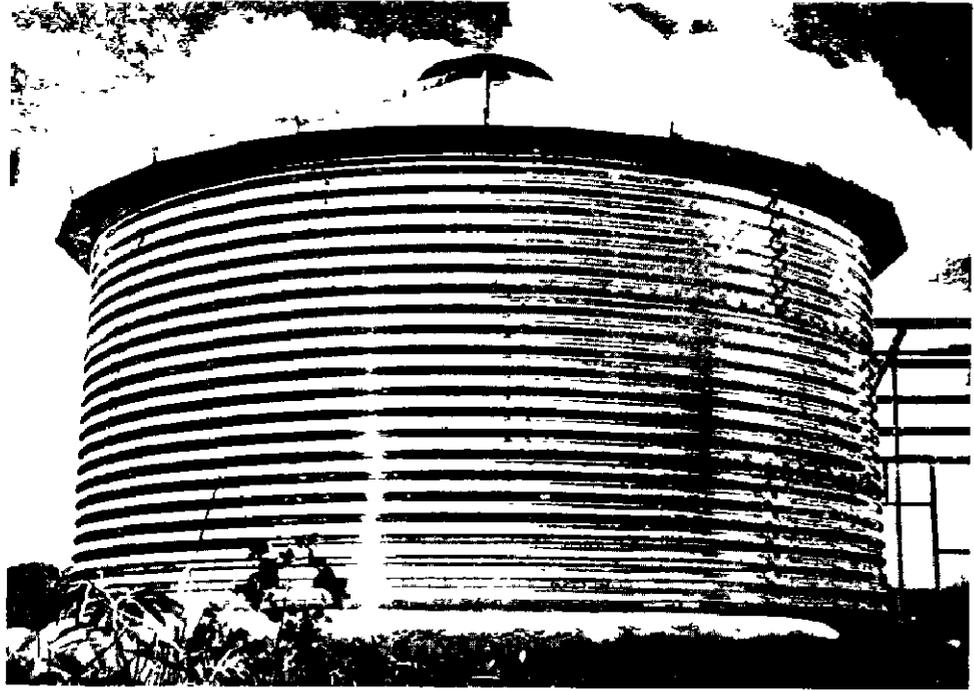


**HEALTH** worker discusses sanitary improvements with Tharu village headman in Rapti Valley.

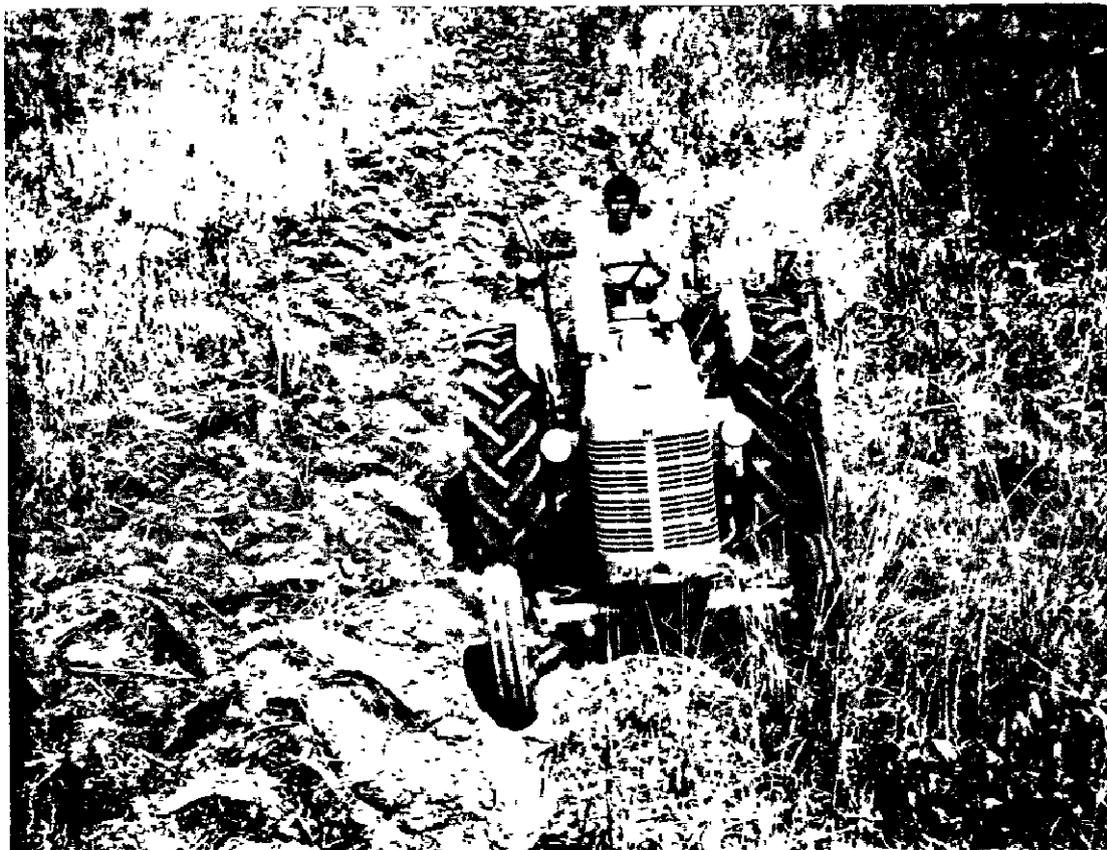




**TWO HEALTH** centers have been established. More than 15,000 people have been immunized against smallpox and cholera. All the villages in the Valley have been sprayed by anti-malaria spray teams of the World Health Organization. This has provided protection for some 36,000 people and has virtually stopped the spread of malaria, the curse of the Valley.



**AN EXPERIMENTAL** farm has been established at Bharatpur, and a soil survey of the Valley has been made. Here, the farm manager helps new settlers select seeds for their new land.



**"You will see, one day ...  
my countrymen will till  
the land where the wild  
animals now roam ...  
God meant for people to  
make their homes on  
this land."**



of the street  
to the street



# **flood relief**

**DURING** the months of August and September, 1954, Nepal suffered its worst flood in over 50 years. The Kosi, Bagmati, and Gandaki Rivers, thundering down from the mountains, took their toll in villages flooded, roads and trails washed away, 25,000 families made homeless, and 1000 lives lost.

The whole country was shaken by the disaster, but when the flood waters receded the people rallied to the task of rebuilding their shattered homes and giving aid to the flood victims.





Help from the outside was not long in coming. The United States Government offered aid in the form of food, medical supplies, clothing, fuel, seed, farming implements, cement, road-building equipment, handpumps and materials to replace bridges wrecked by the flood.





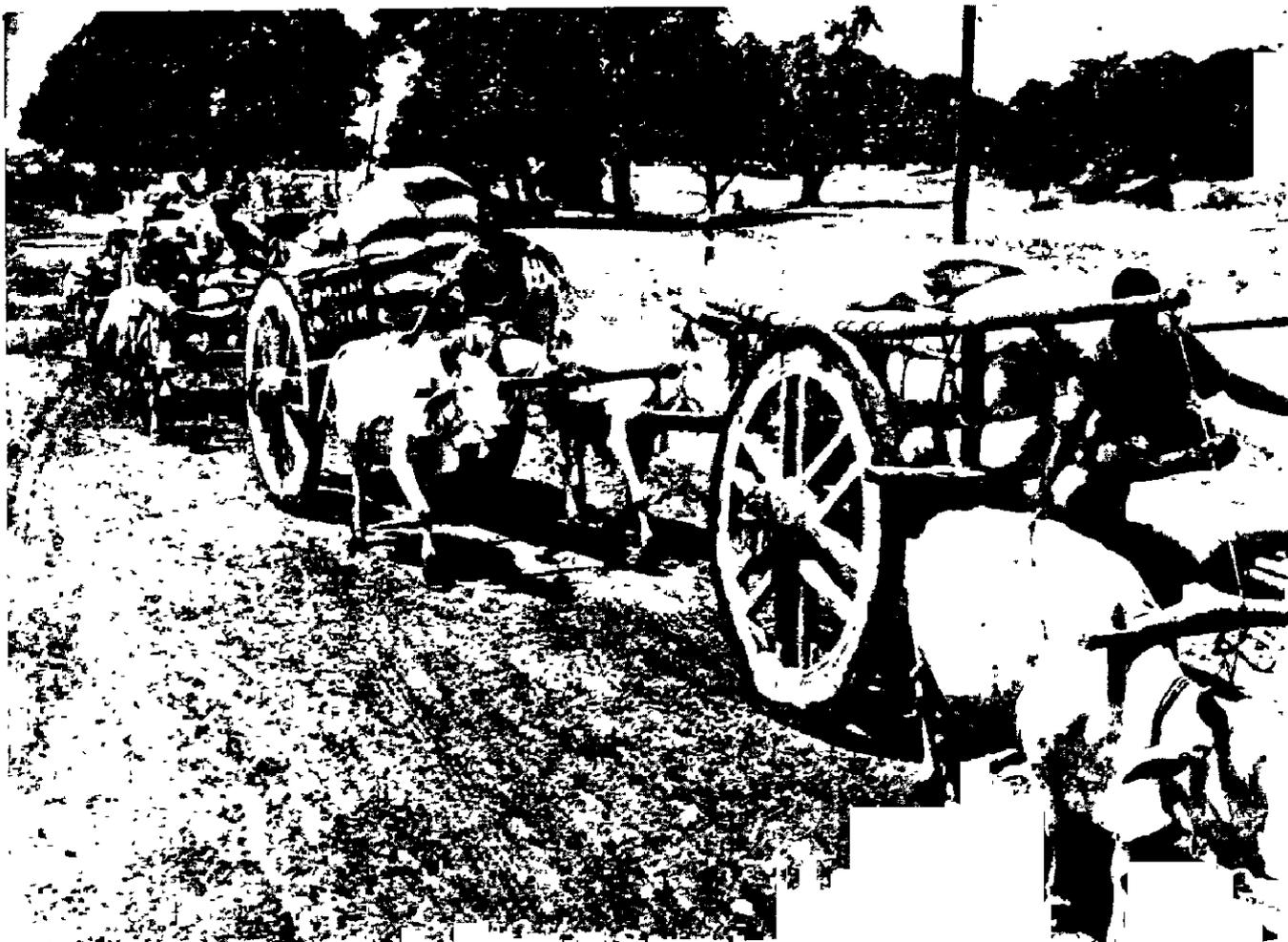
**FLOOD RELIEF** funds helped pay for the repair of damaged roads and the building of new ones.

The Nepalese Government and USOM established a Cooperative Disaster Relief Organization to distribute relief supplies to flood victims and to carry out reconstruction projects.

The Government and people of Nepal rebuilt.

The Government and people of the United States showed again—and tangibly—their sympathy and support.

**U.S. GRAIN** for the flood-damaged area. More than 35,000 sacks of wheat and corn, about 4,000 sacks of salt, and 700 of sugar were distributed.





राजपुर (महाराष्ट्र) का दृश्य

राजपुर (महाराष्ट्र) का दृश्य



**J**UNE is the month the monsoons usually start. A good monsoon means a good harvest, and food for the farmer and his family.

But some years the clouds bring too much rain, or too little, and the land is threatened with flood or famine.

In 1957 too little rain fell in Nepal and the result was famine in many parts of the country. His Majesty King Mahendra appealed to the United States for aid and was answered with an offer to supply 20,000 tons of wheat under President Eisenhower's Emergency Relief Fund.

To start the much-needed grain moving into Nepal as quickly as possible, the Government of India agreed to transfer to Nepal wheat India had just received from the United States.

Once again, cooperative action had served Nepal in the hour of need. Twenty thousand tons of American wheat, delivered in time, loosened famine's grip on the country.



**UNLOADING** the first shipment of U.S. wheat at Birgunj. From here, the wheat was quickly despatched to famine areas.



**PURCHASING** the wheat at a low, fixed price at one of the prescribed distribution points. To ensure equitable distribution, a maximum of 25 pounds could be purchased at one time.





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