Study of Toga Drought

And Ruth Taylor Together

INTEREST lies in contrast, the tall, lithe grace of the latter, but one only needs to look at them together to know the unity of spirit which links them together to believe this platitude one



Malaya Sarkar, the Hindi and Bengali actress, snapped at the Santa Cruz airport in Bombay prior to her departure to Cal-cutta on one of er recent visits to that city in connection with an acting assignment.

has to only look at Indra
Devi and Ruth Taylor to
prove the point!

The demure, petite stature of the former serves to accentuate

In Bombay recently for the fifteenth World Vegetarian Congress, both of them evoked much interest as did their propagation and faith in yoga. Coming from widely different backgrounds, it was only destiny which brought them together.

Indra Devi was born in Riga, of a Swedish father and a Russian mother, and was christened Eugene Peterson. Far removed from the Orient by geography and race, little Eugene first heard of it through the Russian translation of the "Fourteen Lessons in Yoga and Occultism." And suddenly, Eugene made up her mind—"I must go to India," she decided. From then on she read all she could on India.

The Russian Revolution changed her life for she was able to study her pet art, ballet, and perform on the stage.

FELT AT HOME

Later, while she was in Holland, she attended J. Krishnamurti's "camp" at Ommen for eight days; then the vegetarian fare of the "camp" (eaten disparagingly) made it impossible to revert to her old diet and strengthened her determination to see India.

her old diet and strengthened her determination to see India.

In India at last in 1927, she felt at home immediately, although she had to leave after six months. But she returned in 1929 and it was then that B. P. Mishra signed her up for a film, and gave her time screen name of Indra Devi. She starred in "Arabian Nights" to the Commercial Attache to the Czechoslovaki Consulate, with . its whirl of social functions, put astop to her acting career. She returned to Czechoslovakia, but came back to India again to study yoga seriously, which she did for seven years. In 1945 she wrote "Yoga" and followed it up with another book, "Forever Young Forever Healthy," published in 1953.

Talking of yoga, Ruth says: "I want to make it my life's goal, for it seems as if I were transported from my past activities and career into the beautiful sand adopted that name officially. Indra Devi now has a studied to he virility of dancing with fuse the virility of dancing with the virility of dancin

From last February sari-clad Indra Devi got her American na-tionality and adopted that name officially. Indra Devi now has a studio in Hollywood where she

teaches body technique.

Ruth Taylor (nee Adler), was one of the top models in America, and was a member of the dance troupe of the well-known Sarah Midred Strauss. Having won a screen test with M-G-M, she was with that studio for nine years until marriage with basket-ball hero-cum-socialite Chuck Taylor.

the sedate meditations of yoga and through the sedate indication of yoga at the sedate meditations of yoga and screen test with Taylor, we don't force any of our pupils to become vegetarians, for yoga itself does that and is a true guru' for inculcating vegetarianism."

Indra Devi and Ruth Taylor, we don't force any of our pupils to become vegetarians, for yoga itself does that and is a true guru' for inculcating vegetarianism."

Indra Devi intends to start a yoga centre in Cambodia. She has also been invited to Mexico to start a course in yoga at that Glenn were Mexico.



"We were destined to be together," says tall, lithe Ruth Taylor, referring to her collaboration with demure, petite Indra Devi-The study and propagation of yoga have brought them together. The two now run a yoga centre jointly in Hollywood.

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Talking of yoga, Ruth says: "I
want to make it my life's goal,
for it seems as if I were transported from my past activities
and career into the beautiful
realm of yoga, into my home.
Yoga is the union of body, emotion and spirit and thus I could
fuse the virility of dancing with
the sedate meditations of yoga
and achieve spiritualism through
the art."

Indra Devi and Ruth Market

ONORS FOR DSCOMARE'S AFETY SISTERS

ne gals in question don't like title a bit, but since Coronet azine saw fit to dub them that heir January issue, and gave a national publicity, they are xing and enjoying it.

ne group, consisting of Mmes. l White, Dorothy Merrin, ie Wyman, Bunny Stevens, a McColgan and Dorothy son, developed and have operwhat is called the Roscomare System. In this, from the of Roscomare Road to Mulnd Drive, they spot traffic ders and careless or inconate drivers, and note their e numbers. After a third ofthey drop them an admonnote, asking for their cotion, and, oddly, it usually Traffic there is in far bethape than they had dared

Continued on Page 11)

terati, Arise!

n't let that pastoral title,
DDLAND ECHOES", deyou for an instant. The
staff simply lays off work
n hour or so, every time
Kelley's fantastical effusrrive in their office, they
weak with laughter.

ody yet knows whether knows she is funny or not, ho cares? As long as she e is the absolute mistress non sequitur, the hyper-or looping metaphor, the iness of the usual, and can only be described as m of writing, as the a m of unconsciousness"

her. She's habit-forming!

DLS CANYONITES AT EVERYBODY

ing is amiss downtown at I in the communications nt. There have now been tings held, before the Committee, on that fanintain-felling project up orada Drive and Willow

's are supposed to be 70 weeks in advance,

Orient Gypsies House Hunting



Home from their fabulous tour of India, Indonesia, Japan and Malaya, not to mention Indo-China, Mme. Indra Devi and Mrs. Ruth Taylor are seen here garlanded and bedecked in the enchanting Hindu fashion, done to welcome guests. Instead of wreathing flowers on graves, our Oriental cousins (the original Aryans) drape them on the loved and living.

Mme. D and Mrs. T are now searching for a big old house, with 2 stories and a vast living room, to reactivate Indra Devi's famed Yoga institute, so Garbo and Gaylord Hauser and Gloria Swanson and Bob Balzer can all come back and stand on their heads again, in search of health and youth.

Sepulveda Dump

... AND END UP IN A WHIMPER

After all the indignation meetings, the mass protests, the embattled hillside action against the Sepulveda Dump, something went seriously askew at the final meeting.

Instead of over 100, only Everett Laybourne, for Roscomare Valley and the Federation, Marion Israel for Brentwood, Mrs. Woody Hattic for the Federation, and Mrs. James Case for Cahuenga View turned up to protest or speak at all. Few were informed, and even fewer bothered to put in an appearance.

The result was a vote in the Council of 10 to 3, with 2 absent, to put the dump in right away—an overwhelming defeat for all hillsiders who are opposed to flagrant misuse of our hills. But the pro-Dump folk were there in force, as was to be expected, and what were Councilmen to do, with such a visible (or at least superficial) show of strength on one side, and shambling weakness on ours?

Heroine of the occasion was, of all people. Councilgal Rosalind Wyman. Time was when she was not too puissant as a hillside advocate. Those days are gone. She did a magnificent job of ticking off point after point, of showing the glaring contradictions and absurdities in the arguments of the Dump Folk. She all but said flatly that head of the B of PW, Admiral Cushing Phillips, was either a fool or a liar, and he had no answers to her citations of errors in quote after quote from his own speeches.

But it is all in vain. Bel Air and Brentwood and their neighbors now are adjacent to a noxious dump, which may — just MAY — in a dozen years or so be usable as a park.

However, we do hear that there is a Taxpayers Suit coming up to stop it, from the Bel Air folk. So . . . we shall see.



BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID

Los Angeles, Calif. Permit No. 12415

Yoga Exercise Experts Here



Mrs. Indra Devi, authoress of "Forever Young, Forever Healthy," to be published in Japan in translation by the Diamond-sha in December, arrived in Tokyo from the United States, accompanied by Miss Ruth Taylor, her Yoga tutor and MGM Studio's concert dancer, Saturday by Northwest Airlines on her way to India, where she will give lectures on Yoga exercise.

A vegetarian for the last 31 years and a votary of Yoga, gracious Mrs. Devi, clad in a sari, said that Yoga exercise is fast becoming popular among the beauty-conscious American women.

She is the close friend of such celebrities as Prime Min-ister Nehru of India, Greta Garbo, Jennifer Jones, Gloria

Garbo, Jennifer Jones, Gioria Swanson, Serge Koussevitsky and Robert Ryan.

She said the secret of feeling young and healthy and staying useful for as long as one lives is "deep breathing to take as much oxygen as possible and a lot of fresh fruits and raw

vegetables."

Her favorite foods: carrots, vegetable salad, vegetable juice, soy sauce and raw eggs (yolks only), "but seldom mayononly), naise."

Mrs. Devi recommends Yoga exercise to everyone, except those who have high blood pressure. "Because it is of Oriental origin, it must be good not only for Americans but for Japanese, too."

Mrs. Devi recommends Yoga exercise together the exercise to exercise the exercise to everyone, except these exercises to exercise the exercise to exercise the exercise the exercise to exercise the exercise

Mrs. Devi and Miss Taylor Mrs. Devi and mass will leave for India, via Hong morning by

Tuesday Northwest Airlines, and will visit Japan again in December.

(Photos show, top, from left to right, Miss Ruth Tay-lor, MGM Studio's concert dancer and Mrs. Indra Devi during an interview at the Hotel Teito Saturday evening, and below, Mrs. Devi doing her exercise.)

Hill 655

ke be

with Ralph Mendonca

HERE was a time not so long ago when things Indian to be appreciated here, as someone has put it. had to be first exported to the West and then re-imported. Or else some foreigner had to discover for us the niceties of our ancient culture and traditions.

Things have changed now and some of us are even aggressively conscious of our ancient culture. But something like what used to happen in the old days has been happening here from last week.

happening here from last week.

For the foreign delegates to the 15th World Vegetarian Congress have been repeatedly recommending to us the "vegetarian way of life" and appealing to non-vegetarian Indians to go back to vegetarianism. And one of them has not only been recommending to us "Yoga" but even explaining what Yoga is and what it can do to help people live "forever young, and forever healthy."

That delegate who is steal-

That delegate, who is stealing the limelight at almost every meeting of the "vegetarians" is Indra Devi, lithe and youthful fifty-seven.

and youthful fifty-seven.

And let me make it clear at the start that Indra Devi is not like that woman from Louisville whom Robert Andrews, the author of the best-seller "The Great Day in the Morning" had met at Calcutta. She had been here only nine days and during that time, she told him, she had seen twelve elephants, three cobras, about sixty-eight temples, a burning body at Banaras, and some shocking frescoes at Ellora. "And do you know," she had added proudly, "when I get back I am expected to lecture back I am expected to lecture on India."

Indra Devi does not only not belong to that class but in a way she is an exception as far as foreigners go.

BORN IN RIGA

son Her father was a bank he bade goodbye to her, manager who had not tra- saying: "If I don't return, velled further than Europe,





Indra Devi and Ruth Taylor.

In the excitement of that tour, it is natural to expect that her dream about India was pushed in the background. But then she met a man with whom she fell in love and who was equally anxious to come to India.

FRIEND FALLS ILL

THEY began dreaming that dream together and planned to get married SHE was born in Riga of and sail to India in a yacht. a Swedish father and a But unfortunately her friend Russian mother and she was was suddenly struck by a christened Eugene Peter- nervous illness and one day you will go to India for both of us.

After her friend had left, she suddenly began feeling empty within and her work and even her life seemed meaningless.

It was while she

Czechoslovak Consulate in Bombay

The next few years were uneventful. It was the life of a socialite going to races, attending parties, giving parties, but making lots and lots of Indian friends and sometimes shocking the European community by appearing at public functions in a sari. a sari.

Then one day while dining with a friend he was suddenly taken ill, "I really cant afford to get ill now for I have some important work to finish," he told her. She had read a book on Yoga and she remembered

That was in 1939 and there she became the first to start Yoga classes which she held at the residence of Madame Chiang Kai-shek. In 1945 she returned to India and published her first book, "Yoga," the technique of health and happiness."

She has since written another book "Forever Young, Forever Healthy" which was published in 1953 in America, where she has settled down for the past eleven years. It has already gone through fourteen editions and been translated into many languages. languages.

The book has been dedicated to Dr. Sigfrid Knauer whom she married four years ago. Indra Devi has a studio in Hollywood where she teaches Yoga and among her pupils are Greta Garbo, Jennifer Jones, Gloria Swanson, Linda Christian and other actresses and socialites. But she still wishes to be identified with India.

From last February, sari-wearing Indra Devi got her American nationality and at that time she took on that name officially. From India she will go to Cambodia to start a Yoga centre there and later go to Mexico where she has been invited to start a course in Yoga at the "Universidad Femenina de Mexico."

IT PAYS TO SAY "NO"

ID you know that it pays to say "no," in Holly-wood? Neither did Ruth Taylor, once rated as one of the top ten models in until she said America, "no" to a Hollywood Moghul and because of it got a nine years' contract with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Ruth Adler, as she was known then, was a member of the dance troupe of the famous Sarah Mildred Straus which often did concert work with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. She was also much in demand for posters and front-page magazine covers and one of her life-size posters welcomed visitors to Miami for a long time. life-size posters welcomed visitors to Miami for a long time.



from the footstool and cried out aloud.

"I must go to India." ri must go to thoua. The friend looked at her amazed for a while and then, saying: "You are too emotional, my child," closed the book.

But from then on Eugene read every available book on India that came her way and secretly nursed her dream of visiting that came her way and secretly nursed her dream of visiting India. The one book that fanned her desire most, she confesses, was Madame Blavatsky's description of her first visit to India. Then came the revolution during which everything in Russia went topsy-turvy, but which helped Eugene fulfil another of her dreams. her dreams.

her dreams.

She learnt ballet dancing in Moscow and went on the dance stage which would have been unthinkable during the Czarist regime for a girl of her status. In 1921, Eugene escaped into Germany with her mother and there she joined the famous theatre group. "Der Blaue Vogel," (The Blue Bird) and danced her way around Europe. danced her way around Europe.

easy. There was the all-important problem of earning a living and her money was running out fast. But her luck was holding on. For one day she did a little dance at one of the Theosophists' functions in Rombay. The letter functions in Bombay. The late producer B. P. Mishra, who was planning to do a film with an all-amateur cast, saw her and signed her cast, saw her signed her on.

ROLE IN FILM

SHE was cast as "Indra Devi," in a film called "The Arabian Nights," with Prithviraj Kapoor and Jag- study of Yoga seriously, dish Sethi. As soon as the first in Bombay and then in film was completed, "Indra Mysore, where she was the Devi, the rising Indian film guest of the Maharaja. star," had five contracts of- Seven years later, after she fered to her, but she chose had mastered Yoga, she to sign a marriage contract went to Shanghai to join instead with Jan Strakaty, her husband who had been commercial attache to the transferred there.

him home and made the healing passes over his body.

The following day the friend was miraculously cured, but she had to remain in bed with a pain in the heart. She remained ill for four years until, while she was holidaying in Czechoslovakia she met a medical student was includaying in Czechoslo-vakia she met a medical student who had learned Yoga and who cured her with similar Yogic healing passes, but done in the right way.

STUDY OF YOGA

ON her return to India, Indra Devi took up the

The film people naturally could not ignore her for long.

Paramount Pictures Paramount Pictures signed her on to do a dance for the film "Vikiki" which was sho in Hawaii. It was a six-weel contract, but Ruth, tall, slin and bright-eyed, longed to glock to the stage because sh found it more satisfying.

But before she could do that, one of the M-G-M bosses contacted her and invited her to join them. "No, thank you," Buth told him promptly be to join them. "No, thank you," Ruth told him promptly, be cause she was anxious to ge back home and to the stage "My God, who does she think she is," the man muttered to himself. And he was all the more determined to get her to accept the offer.

Ruth, however, relented when he said: "All right, at least you come for an audition with Albertina Rasch, our dance director. Who knows, she may also say 'No." Ruth accepted it also say 'No'." Ruth accepted it more as a challenge, passed the test and remained with M-G-M for nine years until she married Chuck Taylor, the "all-star am-bassador of basket ball."

Then Ruth gave up the films and settled down in their home at Bel-Air in California as a socialite with her name in "Who is Who" and the "Blue Book" That marriage, however, did not last very long because, as Ruth says, "he had lived too long as a bachelor and he was too famous to devote much time to the home."

the home."

By then she had been too long away from the stage and so Ruth began planning to set herself up as a dance teacher. It was then that to one of her glittering parties at her Bel-Air residence came Indra Devi During that party Indra Devi suddenly announcd that she would do something which if they did not like they would at least find exotic. Then she climbed adop Ruth's huge ebony piano and did an Indian dance.

And at the end of that dance.

And at the end of that dance, Ruth recalled when I met her last week, "We had discovered each other." Ruth, who has accompanied Indra Devi on her present tour, has since been her inseparable companion. Ruth now



These girls have really not turned their backs on you. They merely want you to admire their hair styles, creations of Salone di Belezza, which they displayed at the "Belezza Ball", a very lively show organised by Jimmy Barucha at the Taj Mahal Hotel last week.

where she often conducts Yoga classes alone in the absence of Indra Devi.

"In Yoga I find spiritual satisfaction," claims Ruth, "and in teaching I get more than I give." Ruth likes to visit Indian homes, but she derives greater pleasure in mingling with the crowds in the streets.

"I have never seen so many beautiful and smiling faces anywhere else," she says. And like Yehudi Menuhin she has discovered that the poor here, unlike those in the West, are not depressed and embittered, but, despite their crushing poverty, they have retained a certain amount of dignity and nobility. "We in the West have plenty of material things, but we are lonely and afraid inside us," she told me; "here even the one that dwells in a hut, perhaps because he has the family around him, has his spiritual energy safeguarded."

AMERICAN BANKER

100 the American business man and the American investor view with mistrust our plan of building up a Socialistic pattern of so-

our plan of building up a
Socialistic pattern of society?

"There is an area of misunderstending in my country regarding
the interpretation of the word
Socialism." George Curran, VicePresident of the Bank of America, told me when I met him in
Bombay last week, "but I have
been surprised to learn that the
public sector is only five per cent
of the total economic set up and
that even at the end of the FiveYear Plan it won't go beyond
ten per cent."

"If these figures are correct,"
Curran went on, "they should be
strongly emphasised in America,
because they are normal for any
democratic country." And it is
nice for us to learn that Curran
also believes that India's "longterm potential is great."

For Curran has come here to
study our economic and political
situation on behalf of a bank
which is the largest bank in the
world and which has already
given us 20 million dollars in
short-term credit and six million
in leag-term credit.

After finishing high school, because jobs were hard to get in
Ireland, Irish-born Curran went
to seek his fortune in America
where, he had heard it said,
"one could pick up gold in the
streets." He was only eighteen
and treland was a colony then
and so he had also longed to
feel himself a free man.

"I was to realise that the
American roads were not
paved with gold," he jests,
"one had to work for a living
but there was work available
in plenty." And what is more,
he had found himself among
"a friendly, frank and warmhearted people."

That was in 1926 and he had
landed in a prosperous America.
But then came the depression
which changed the face of America for a while with armies of
unemployed trudging the streets
in search of jobs. But Curran
fortunately was in a comparatively safe position.

For those banks, that did not
go into liquidation, "carried
their staff alone" The Bar'.





RELIGIOUS A

Understanding Faiths of Others Held Great Deterrent to Communism

BY OMAR GARRISON, Religion Editor

Two American women who have just returned from a three-month tour of the Far East said today that the U.S. is overlooking its most important weapon in the fight against Communism among Asian peoples.

The most effective way to win Oriental goodwill, they ize tours of Americans gendeclared, is not economic ligions of the Far East, and aid, political conferences, or send them over there. propaganda, but the establishment of religious under-create would be more farstanding between East and reaching and effective than

ney Terrace, said that durliefs of Eastern peoples."
ing their tour of India, Ceyling Miss Devi pointed out that lon, Burma, and Thailand, the Chinese Communists are

"Wherever we went," yoga, "all doors were open to us, and we found people friendly and eager to have lives far more than religion influences the lives of people in this country.

"Our government," she continued, "seems to have overlooked the fact that the greatest deterrent to the spread of Communism in Asia is religion. Our State Department ought to organ-

Fifield Says Religion Losing Out

any amount of dollars we The two Southland visi-might send, while at the rs — Mrs. Ruth Taylor, same time assuming an atti-11500 Bellagio Road, Bel-Air, tude of condescension or ridand Indra Devi, 1822 Court-icule toward the ancient be-

they avoided big hotels and aware of the important role tourist centers, sojourning instead in Buddhist and Hindu monasteries.

All Doors Open

religion plays in the daily life of Asian people and are attempting to exploit it for their own political ends.

"In the case of Buddhism, said Indra Devi, Russian-Swedish author of a book on voga "fall decorations to important delemeetings such as the 2500th anniversary of Buddha's nirvana. 'Although we calculate better understanding of their faith, which controls their dhists we calculate the year by a different calendar, the Reds told the Buddhists we chall in reverence and joy.'

Where to Hit Reds
The U.S. has not done enough, in Miss Devi's opinion, to stress the antireligious and atheistic nature of Communism to the devout of

Mrs. Taylor, who made the transition from her Bel-Air mansion to the bare austerity of monks' cells in the Eastern ashramas, or monasteries, agreed.

"When those people learned that we had a sincere interest in learning more of their faith and their by 10

Religion

MIRROR NEWS

Los Angeles, Sat., Jan. 18, 1958 Part |



BACK FROM TOUR-Indra Devi, left, and Ruth Taylor, dressed in Indian saris, display a statuette of Nataraj, classical conception of Hinduism's dancing Siva, which they brought back from their tour of temples and religious ashramas of India, Ceylon, Burma and Thailand.

o pay 10% of the gross EV as and give up all conns for nine games fol-

etings, secret huddles UDCLIFS SET

ion, Burma, and Inanano, the Chinese Communists are they avoided big hotels and aware of the important role instead in Buddhist and Hin-life of Asian people and are du monasteries.

All Doors Open

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Fifield Says Religion Losing Out

Dr. James W. Fifield Jr., tional Church, will point out gion. in his duplicate sermons at the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services "They do not expect us to the tomorrow that church sta-embrace their faith," she other

than factual," Dr. Fifield dethe world over.

"Too often we here in be a g is dropping off, the constancy ness, in family life, in governmental affairs is markedly diminishing.

"These facts," he added, "present a real challenge to all Christians to improve the monasteries where the wom- and quality of their faith. A great en stayed, it was the first Count religious revival could be developed that would save the ancient ashramas that the things that matter most in monks had allowed women 7:30. America and in our civiliza-

sojourning religion plays in the daily attempting to exploit it for

their own political ends.
"In the case of Buddhism, particularly," she China has sent official delegations to important mass meetings such as the 2500th anniversary of Buddha's nirvana. 'Although we calculate reverence and joy."

Where to Hit Reds

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Mrs. Taylor, who made the transition from her Bel-Air mansion to the bare austerity of monks' cells in the Eastern ashramas, or monasteries, agreed.

"When those people learned that we had a sincere interest in learning more of their faith and their by 1 way of life," she said, "they welcomed us as they would Tobi minister of First Congrega- pilgrims, of their own reli-Rede

Want Understanding

tistics given wide publicity added. "All they want is unduring the past year are mis-leading. derstanding and a genuine feeling that all people who "Much of the statistical believe in God have a compicture is fictional rather mon bond that unites them to

America draw a religious of church members to the circle that leaves out half Youth 'Jesus' way of life is de- the population of the earth. Open creasing; the aggregate in- And we expect them to ac- rector fluence of religion in busi-cept our way of life on the nounce basis of what is, at best, a kind of 'poor relation' phi-clude losophy.'

The Bel-Air woman said teen-ti that in several of the ancient Bell

Indianan in Pulpit carmon



BACK FROM TOUR-Indra Devi, left, and Ruth Taylor, dressed in Indian saris, display a statuette of Nataraj, classical conception of Hinduism's dancing Siva, which they brought back from their tour of temples and religious ashramas of India, Ceylon, Burma and Thailand.

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