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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THE SMILING FACE on the cover this week is to herald the first rains in the drought stricken areas. Every major drought in the cycle is usually followed by a year of heavy rains, often floods, and it is to be hoped that this year will not be different. This year has a significance all its own because of the *Swarnabhoomi* movement launched by the Government. We cannot do better than cite extracts from a note prepared by our regular contributor Ariya Abeysinghe. "Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, the Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development, said on 21.7.1979 in the Parliament that 'every citizen born in this country has a right to own a piece of land from this golden earth. Our intention and hope is to make this a reality'. Thus, this in a nutshell emphasises the *Swarnabhoomi Concept* which is a 'land to tiller programme' launched by the Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development under the auspices of the President from Polonnaruwa District, the original home of the oldest settlement schemes where late D. S. Senanayake, C. P. de Silva, R. L. Brohier worked hard to create a free world to the landless downtrodden peasantry. The *Swarnabhoomi* programme gives teeth to the good intentions of land reform of 1972 and 1975 launched by Mr. Hector Kobbekaduwa. This year 1982 could be called the *Year of The Swarnabhoomi* when 430,000 acres of land will be given to landless peasantry who will for the first time be given a legal title (Sinnakkara) giving the ownership and correct boundaries. Since 1930, settlers in the colonisation schemes were given LDO permits which was a temporary right to develop the lands. The settlers did not show much interest in developing these lands since they did not own the land they lived. They could not mortgage these lands and get credit to engage in intensive cultivation. The *Swarnabhoomi* programme gives them the long awaited legal title to these lands. Since 1931 late D. S. Senanayake as the Minister of Agriculture and Lands went on developing water resources, around which settlements were created. About 160,000 families found new homes in a new world. Subsidies, houses, seed paddy, cattle, agricultural implements were given as an incentive to pioneer settlers. Subsidies were given to help the peasantry until harvest. Hospitals, schools, community centres were among infrastructure provided. The prices of rice then was only 15 cents a measure. Yet, Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake cut the first clod of soil on 20th April 1933 at Minneriya from where the *Swarnabhoomi 1982* programme will be launched. Giritala, Parakrama, Samudraya, Elahera, Raja Ela, Minneriya, Kagama, Nuwara Wewa, Bath Madilla, Minipe, Ridi Bedi Ela, Devahuwa, Galoya, Kantalai, Allai Walawe, Hurulu Wewa, are some of the many settlement schemes that grew up over the years. The latest is the Mahaweli project with the various systems. A total acreage of 131,137 consisting of 49,225 acres paddy lands and 81,912 acres of high lands were developed over the years. What the new *Swarnabhoomi* programme is going to do is to produce a tenurial reform which will create the correct atmosphere for the free development of the peasant in Sri Lanka. It is important to offer a package deal of agricultural inputs and crop knowledge following the *Swarnabhoomi* programme. Fragmentation should be prevented and the mortgaging of land by the tiller to mudalalis who wish to consolidate property should be over come by a well thought out agricultural credit package. If not the land owners themselves could become landless agricultural workers in their own lands. If this is well worked out in the major irrigation schemes *Swarnabhoomi* programme would show good results over the years".

Stagflation, Depression Or Poverty ?

NOT MANY PEOPLE in this country seem to know that Third World debt has touched a record of \$ 456 billions in 1981. Of this staggering total of the outstanding debt of developing countries, India and other oil importing countries owed a bulk of \$ 373 billion. The Press Trust of India (PTI) reviewing the situation of India pointed out that about 300 billion dollars of this debt was owed to private sources largely the commercial banks and about two-thirds of this amount — \$ 200 billion—has been raised at floating rates of interests, according to Commonwealth Secretariat information available in New Delhi. Again, the debt service payments of developing countries stood today at 92 billion dollars a year and they were constantly rising out of proportion to foreign exchange earnings. While in 1973, about 14 percent of export earnings of developing countries went to repay debt it was 20 percent of debt-service ratio now. For some countries, according to these figures, it has reached "fighting" levels of 30 percent. Eleven developing countries paid more than 20 percent debt service while for six others, the ratios were already between 25 and 30 percent. Loans from the commercial banks taken by developing countries carry relatively short maturities—about seven to 10 years. **The combination of very high interest rates and short maturities is believed to have now imposed crushing debt service burdens on the borrowing countries. A breakdown of Sri Lanka's international debt with an analytical and interpretative survey is not yet available.**

In the meantime, tight money policies in the West may cut inflation in the short term, but they may threaten worse stagflation in the longer run, the UN Economic Commission for Europe warns in its economic survey of 1981. The ECE secretariat report on economic developments in Europe and North America joins a growing array of warnings by international organisations about the direction of the world economy. Depression with a much greater number of unemployed than is presently forecast for 1982 may result from rather fragile potential and negative factors such as high interest rates. Western European and US economic performance fell below expectations last year, according to the survey. Hopes of a slow recovery in western Europe, with a rise in output of 0.2 percent drop in production the first fall since 1973. Unemployment in western Europe will continue to rise, from just under seven percent in 1981 to eight per cent—16 million people—in 1982. But empirical evidence shows the Report says, that investment growth is needed for productivity growth which takes place

only during periods of output expansion, this means that over the longer term, tight money policies, by depressing growth and investment, may in fact exacerbate the problems. Optimistic business expectations of 1981 were not fulfilled, the report points out, warning that this could have a highly depressing effect on longer term business prospects.

There is undoubtedly general confusion in the world economic scene today. Bathuk Gathani reporting from London to the Madras *Hindu* writes informatively about the situation in the oil market: "At no time since the first 1974 oil crisis has there been so much confusion in the world market as today following Britain's lead in cutting prices by \$ 4 a barrel. The spot market in Rotterdam is in a state of disarray and with up to three million barrels a day of spare capacity of oil chasing a sprinkling market, the downward pressure on prices is irresistible. Private dealers are talking in terms of the price dropping to the level of \$ 25 a barrel, and the market has become a minefield for oil traders. It is against his background that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries will be meeting in Vienna on March 19, to bring about some discipline in the world oil market. Saudi Arabia has already announced that it will lower its output ceiling of 8,500,000 barrels a day—just over 1,200,000 tons—by one million barrels a day to reduce the current world oil glut. On March 19, OPEC members will take a crucial decision on a ceiling of 18,500,000 barrels a day or equivalent to two and half million tons. Oil industry executives feel that OPEC is taking a major 'gamble' and opinion is divided whether it would pay off to stabilise the downward trend.

"A great deal about what happens next depends on the attitude of Saudi Arabia. The Saudi tactics have been puzzling oilmen. Sheikh Yamani, Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister, said his country's price of \$ 34 a barrel would remain unchanged at least until the end of the year and added 'there is no question of prices being cut.' Saudi Arabia will also make the biggest contribution to the production cuts. The current feeling in informed quarters is that OPEC is effectively attempting to ignore Britain's decision to reduce North Sea prices and hence maintain fragile unity within its own camp. Nigeria, for example, is desperately running short of foreign exchange and needs good prices of its oil to finance its development programme. It is also an open secret that vast quantities of Nigerian oil is being sold unofficially in the Rotterdam spot market. The big American, Swiss and British banks have long been interlocked with oil money. Traditionally, the rich Arab countries have left their surpluses in the Western banks that they knew best. The new surpluses brought new opportunity and new uncertainty to the international capital markets. The oil producers have steadfastly refused to have their petro-dollars 'recycled' through either IMF or the World Bank.

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"The less developed countries had a negligible benefit from the OPEC petro-dollar surpluses. Most of this money in Western banks has been invested in company stocks or real estate. Oil producers have also launched development programmes and Arab countries have gone on a spree buying armaments from the West and the Communist States. Now that the oil prices are plunging downwards, Arab oil producers may be forced to fall back on their deposits and investments to pay for their welfare or armament programmes. In the present recessionary conditions there could be a series of major defaults on the part of Western multinational companies and they may be unable to meet their financial obligations to the banks. This is why many economists and some bankers see these new petro-dollar billions in banks as dangerous".

The picture will not be complete unless we realise that terrific pressures threaten the World Bank as we know it. An IPS report from Washington revealed that after 12 years as a senior policy official at the World Bank, Mahbub ul Haq was leaving the world's most important international development institution "very uncertain and disturbed" about its direction and future. The Bank's "positive accomplishments" over the past decade are increasingly "threatened" by bilateral pressures from the United States. Haq told IPS in an exclusive interview last week before leaving to become Pakistan's Planning and Development Minister: "Basically", he said, "I believe it is for the World Bank management and the World Bank Board to stand up against these bilateral pressures and to ensure that the international credibility of this institution is not eroded". Haq who was one of former Bank president Robert S. McNamara's principal policy advisers, and who headed the policy planning and programme review staff also fears that the Bank may "slide back again from a development agency into a commercial bank". This he argued would mean that the Bank will not "stand as a compassionate and professional intermediary between the market place and the developing countries and cushion the poor nations and poor people against the excesses of the market".

The increasing rhetoric in favour of "the role of the private sector" is "a lot of nonsense" Haq said. "The record of the private market over the last 10 years, even in sectors like energy, is extremely dismal". And "to invoke the market ethics of the role of the private sector for (the poorest) nations is to be either hypocritical or cynical or just naive". The US failure to fulfil its pledges to the sixth replenishment of IDA has meant a 40 percent or 1.5 billion dollar shortfall in IDA funds for 1982, and the Treasury Department has announced plans to reduce future US contributions by 35 to 40 percent in the mid-1980s. Other donor countries, might well reduce their contributions proportionately as they did this year. IDA makes interest free loans to the world's poorest countries.

In reviewing his 12 years at the Bank, Haq listed several "positive accomplishments". "When I came to the Bank in 1970, not a single penny had been given to any nationalised industry, but over the last 10 years three quarters of our lending has been to public sectors. Basically", he continued, "we can ask the question as to whether the investor is public or private, but only whether it will further economic efficiency and social equity".

In this connection the editorial entitled *South-South Co-operation* in the New Delhi daily *Patriot* on March 12 makes interesting reading: "..... It is not at all surprising that Messrs Oli Havrylshyn and Martin Wolf of the World Bank should pompously declare that emphasis on greater South-South trade and economic cooperation is misplaced. The vocal monetarist elements in affluent capitalist countries; whose vested interest is assiduously promoted by the Bank, have reasons to be worried at the growing trend towards closer cooperation among developing nations; the industrially-powerful western countries feel this could undermine their capacity to dictate terms to the developing world. "The strategic value of South-South cooperation in the strengthening of the South's negotiating power with the North was particularly stressed" in the Chairman's summing up of New Delhi Consultations. The World Bank's spokesmen naturally view with apprehension the alarming prospect of accretion in the South's bargaining power. Hence, their attempt to dismiss lightly the significance of cooperation among them. True, promotion of mutually beneficial economic and trade relations between the developing countries is not an easy process. The difficulties that are normally encountered when two countries or a group of countries seek to promote economic relations are compounded by the legacies of colonialism. Their stunted growth, specially in areas where they could be most useful to each other, is due to their colonial past and because of this historical background most of them experience difficulties in diversifying the composition and direction of their trade in favour of other developing countries. Hurdles in expanding this cooperation, although real, are not insurmountable and consist mainly in undeveloped markets and inadequate tapping of national resources.

"Apart from the social and political constraints un-avoidable to such efforts, interference by the industrialised countries also exercises a negative pull on them. Taking advantage of their historical presence in most of the developing economics these erstwhile colonial powers are able to prevent or at least slow down the structural changes necessary for expanding the domestic markets and removing other impediments in the way of closer South-South cooperation. The gentlemen from the World Bank ignore this negative role of the industrialised countries. South-South cooperation is not a substitute for the struggle for new international economic order. But it is an im-

portant input in winning the battle against the recalcitrant capitalist countries, specially the United States. There is vast scope for cooperation in the areas including food, energy, trade, finance, raw material, industry, technology and technical cooperation. The non-aligned summit at Havana also issued guidelines for reinforcing the collective self-reliance of developing countries as a major step in the evaluation of ECDC. As the New Delhi meeting emphasised the success and adequacy of efforts of developing countries at forging links of cooperation could be measured only by concrete implementation of agreed programmes. Difficulties in this regard do not make like us to believe."

All Third World countries look forward to the North-South dialogue to ease the tensions but agency reports indicate that hopes of starting global negotiations on North-South issues in the early part of the year have receded for lack of agreement between the two sides on the ground rules for holding the dialogue. The Group of 77, which consists of 120 developing countries, met in New York recently to see if it could agree on a formulation that could pave the way for formally agreeing to launch the dialogue. At the "mini session" of the General Assembly under way, it however, found that there was no meeting ground with the developed countries. This implies that no resolutions for launching the negotiations will be brought before the General Assembly which has been in session since Tuesday and is scheduled to adjourn on Friday. The Assembly session, however, will be kept "suspended" so that it could be reconvened at short notice in case agreement is reached on the basis for holding the North-South dialogue.

"Differences persist on all aspects of the problem the forum for global negotiations, agenda items and time-frame. More specifically, the United States wants a preliminary meeting of the proposed UN conference for establishing the procedures, agenda and time frame for the global negotiations. Developing countries are averse to such a preliminary meeting. Another area of major difference between the two sides continue to be the forum for holding the proposed dialogue. The Group of 77 countries want the proposed UN conference—consisting of both member and non-member states of the UN—to be the central forum, while respecting the 'jurisdiction, competence, functions and powers' of the specialized forum within the United Nations system. The US and other industrial countries continue to stick to their earlier position that specialized institutions like the International Monetary Fund and the GATT must remain free to discuss matters of concern to them, and this includes their own reorganisational questions."

Meanwhile, economic conditions are getting more and more difficult for the mass of the population in all Third World and developing

countries : crisis point has been reached in many countries. And the rich are getting richer and the poor poorer.

In Sri Lanka there are studies and seminar papers to show malnutrition and poverty are daily on the increase. that Statistics about how the rich have become richer are not yet available. But in neighbouring India, the assets of 20 top industrial houses of the country have shown fabulous increases between 1982 and 1980 the following table shows :

Name of the House	Assets in Rs .crore	
	1972	1980
Tata	641.93	1,538.97
Birla	589.42	1,431.99
Mafatlal	183.74	427.54
J. K. Singhania	121.45	412.72
Thapar	136.16	348.05
I.C.I.	135.21	342.01
Sarabhai	84.44	319.94
A. C. C.	134.36	274.51
Bangur	125.26	264.33
Larsen & Toubro	79.03	246.48
Shri Ram	120.77	241.00
Kirloskar	86.46	220.37
Hindustan Lever	77.87	219.30
Scindia	107.73	212.84
Oil India	104.04	205.88
Modi	58.05	198.82
TVS Iyengar	50.97	188.64
Mahindra and Mahindra	58.49	186.03
Chowgule	57.52	184.68
Bajaj	63.32	179.26

The data for 1981 are still not available. However, according to the latest information, TELCO, TISCO, Associated Cement, Scindia Steam and two other companies have crossed the mark of Rs. 200 crore in assets as on March 31, 1981.

In Sri Lanka too the big business houses have grown richer many times in profits and assets after 1977.

But what about the ordinary man, the poor voter ?



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Film Corporation

Sir,

I refer to the letter of Mr. R. R. Sivalingam M. A., LL.B., Attorney-at-Law, published in the *Tribune* of 27th February 1982. It is very heartening to note that Mr. Sivalingam appreciates our problems: and

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indeed most grateful for his referring to our Tamil Film Selection Team that visited Madras on August 1981, as "the team which went last year consisted of eminent and incorruptible personalities who had the responsibility of selecting the Tamil films".

About the publicity given by the Tamil papers stated by you on the alleged incident that (a) "one South Indian Producer by name R. S. Somanathan has come to Sri Lanka with a young Tamil film actress by name Swarna"; (b) "he (Mr. Somanathan) had met the Corporation Officials (with his companion) had managed to obtain a letter stating that he is authorised by the Corporation to select pictures for purchase by the State Film Corporation of Sri Lanka" are too unreal to be believed.

I had an immediate inquiry made on both these allegations and no one in our Corporation appears to have heard a thing about these people or the alleged letter. I do not propose to dismiss these allegations lightly as it affects the integrity of the National Film Corporation. I would therefore be most grateful if Mr. Sivalingam meets me, at a mutually convenient date and time. We can then go into these allegations and decide what further action is necessary.

Anton Wickremasinghe
CHAIRMAN

National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka,
224, Bauddhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo.
23rd March 1982.



FILM FOCUS

Erotic Advts

A morning daily recently reported that Director/Actor Gamini Fonseka had called on the President, under whose purview comes the National Film Corporation, to protest strongly on the erotic blue film type of advertisements that are being permitted of late. This column concurs entirely with this and if there is NFC complicity to such media blurbs, that are very often erotically exaggerated, then it has to be deplored and the President should call a halt to them. A discussion is due to be held at the time of writing, and this column rests confident, that what it has spotlighted often is coming up at last for discussion. Gamini has made particular reference to a couple of example to drive his point home—"Blue Sex and open violence of brutal impact, if the body, is hot call her, if cold call him" "She is the call girl, he is the God and both take their jobs seriously". While saluting

Gamini for pursuing a matter which is assumne ugly proportions day by day, this column turns of another "blurb" that misleads picturegoers to the point of cheating them viz. "The Show will commence as soon as the 'House is Full', when in truth the film keeps opening to half empty houses, by its poor quality alone. Having been taken for a ride on more than one occasion by such advertisements and left wiser now, this column will name the cinemas that indulge in this type of claptrap if these "blinds" and "blinkers" are not removed forthwith.

Since the NFC handles all cinema advertisements—and this column wonders why there should be this monopoly—at quite a price, its accuracy at least should never fail, yet serious errors in the programmes for the day and the time of the shows do creep in, whereby the exhibitor receives the wrath of patrons, and to add insult to injury, is not given a rebate for the heavy losses he faces periodically by faulty media announcements. And what of the movie goers who are misled and have bought tickets at a price, and who are left high and dry by this haphazard attitude of those in the Publicity Section of the NFC. Such improper synchronisations are bound to give the NFC a bad name, in the long run, that taints the Exhibitor too for no fault of his own. This should receive the attention of those who administer the NFC at a priority level. Unless this is done forthwith, Film Focus would like to go all the way with Fred Allen, who cracked in lighter vein, probably having such a situation in mind that "Advertisements are 85% confusion and 15% commission.

YASA ISURU (Sinhalese): The story, screenplay and direction of this film that pleases the eye in fine Fuji colour is by Dharmasiri Gamage who has dedicated the creation to all "mothers" around the world which dedication in actual relevance to the story weers rather thin, while traversing its formula run! The neutralising factor is an excess of "sentiment" and "tears" for mass appeal. Four of the finest stars are lined up and their individual performances are high, without lifting the story totally to the same level. Malini Fonseka roles Sarojini, a budding lawyer in Hultsdorf, with her brother Ajit (Vijaya Nandasiri) in the Batik business, with a glad and persuasive eye for those good lookers working in his establishment. He inveigles into his net a pretty Batik designer Suramya (Marie Samarasinghe), seduces her and ditches her to be at the receiving end of the fatalist fury of her "Blue Belted" brother (Amarasiri Kalansuriya), an instructor in the martial arts. Watching coldly and rather detached, with an eagle eye, of the happenings around him is A. S. P. Mahesh (Vijaya Kumaranatunga) who remains as cold, to the overtures of the "blue stockinged" Sarojini, between their official confrontations. The story builds to a showdown in court, which sequences perhaps was meant to be the *piece de resistance*, but what a drab anti climax it turned

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out to be. Much as Malini Fonseka tried, she lacked the fire needed for once defending the killer of her brother, although acquittal followed. It was too artificial a performance from such a fine actress, dressed up so well for the role! The story is mainly in flashback, but veers to a tame ending after the trial, where a legal battle is won, but a "war" of love is lost. Vijaya Kumaratunga was excellent in his role, while Nandasiri and Kalansuriya were convincing, with newcomer Marie showing much promise, with a rare brand of glamour. The colourful "Batik" background, and the well synchronised music held sway to tilt the film visually. It is well worth a visit with the family.

FLYING HIGH (English): A Paramount production where a "cosmopolitan" plane load are kept in the air in high spirits, but on borrowed time, as the pilots drop like nine-pins after a fish meal. Ground control in the hands of a veteran pilot (Robert Stack) directs a lithe and lissome passenger (Julie Hagerty), on the run from her lover (Robert Hays), a single engined wartime pilot also on board, to face the four engine-crisis. Yes—the film was not all that serious for it was a rib tickler of the highest order. The frolics of receding love tangle were in flashback, while the only serious moment was when the plane belly landed. A comedy at its best—take this "flight" with the family for a very enjoyable evening.

JAGUAR LIVES (English): A Carlo Ponnampalam Realease, that introduces a new Karate star in the muscular and more athletic Joe Lewis as Jonathan Cross, who crosses continents to toss his adversaries with a martial ease. It was more a travelogue than a story for the camera hopped through El Babbah, New York, Hong Kong, Madrid, Rome and Macao with the hero, for the action sequences which came aplenty. For Karate fans, more than fair fare with an exponent who is less vocal when delivering his deadly chops. I like this brand, and so will you and your family.

A few new Tamil films are around the corner for local release, and Tamil picture-goers must rest satisfied now for these small mercies!

James N. Benedict



BOOK REVIEW

Eternity?

GOD, MAN AND THE UNIVERSE by Aloy Jayarajah.
(Published by Arthur H. Stockwell Ltd., UK—£ 2.10
and Vantage Press, New York, US*.)

6

THIS IS A BOOK to be read once over and re-read in quiet reflection. Aloy Jayarajah has something important to say. We should be grateful to him because he says it both briefly and lucidly. One is not burdened with laborious references to various authorities. The few references made are with a point, to advert to a perspective at some point of time. The author (as all of us in the Hindu-Buddhist milieu) is an inheritor of the ancient tradition of reflection on the nature and essence of human experience and phenomena. Living in a world where our minds are constantly pressed with problems relating to the material, the metrical, the physical and the economic, it is both salutary and refreshing to take a little time off to reflect upon the meaning of it all. What is the nature and purpose of our being and becoming, of our having and our doing? This kind of reflection constitutes the content of this book. The metaphysical questions come to us naturally. A wide spectrum of answers and reflections has been our heritage. Living in the context of the current materialistic "civilisation", which is surviving in a balance of terror, Aloy Jayarajah's reflections come as a balm of sanity, giving us a truly human perspective on the rush of immediate events and conflicts.

WE PAUSE for a moment to reflect on the nature of our specific individuation for a brief span, at best about a thousand months, duration, and not too infrequently terminating even before the individual matures to arrive at a realisation of his self-identity. In the first-third of the book the author presents an orientation of the human identity in the physics, universe and the world of phenomena which has become the subject matter of current scientific investigation with a limited range of investigative tools. Thereafter, he branches off to other areas of human experience and expression—of art, symbolic mathematics and music presenting an integrated whole of these diverse fields of experience. We are all of one piece with the universe, a vibrational field, in which the individual has identity but as a resonant field integrated to the whole—the Absolute Energy Force, the Great Planner both immanent and transcendent. "This Absolute Energy must, therefore, be conscious, intelligent and both immanent and transcendent above all things." The totality is grasped as a universal whole. Art, music, poetical and mystical insights and our daily labour are seen as all of a piece during our brief apostrophe in time. It ends the tiresome syllogistic logic chopping the primitive anthropomorphic perception of the Absolute.

IT REMAINS one of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (in whom there was a fusion of the religious and of the modern scientific insights) and his vision of the universe as a divine milieu, permeated through and through by the omnipresence of God. This is a view presented before his time by Sri Aurobindo

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(in "The Divine Life) in the tradition of the ancient Vedas. In this vision, Chardin did not seek union with the Absolute by a mysticism of "withdrawal" from the world, and its activity but through a dedicated integrated and sublimated absorption in it. The point of it all is the true human orientation in the universe through a spiritual experience where the poles of solitude and community merge, where the polar opposites of normal thought and perception fade away and the seeming contraries and contradictories are reconciled. Such an insight provides man with the inner strength both to have peace within oneself and also to relate validly and adequately both to his fellow creatures and to the universe as whole.

G. I. O. M. Kurukulasuriya



POINT OF VIEW

Jaffna University

Agriculture and Engineering Faculties Shelved?

By Yalpadu

The pressure for higher educational opportunities compelled the successive governments to open up new Universities and Campuses during the last two decades. Though it was the outcome of a political will to please various sections of the Sri Lankan communities it was welcome in view of the fact that most of them were Swabasha educated and had little opportunity to obtain higher education elsewhere. The rush to establish these centres of higher education in its turn wrought havoc on the country. In certain instances Universities came to be manned by teachers who were ill-equipped to inspire confidence in the students especially in a developing country. High school and technical school teachers were overnight metamorphosed into lecturers and professors. It is a paradox that in certain instances some of these teachers have gone to the extent of questioning the aptitude of the students little realising that if not for the indiscriminate proliferation and duplication of Universities and faculties they themselves would not have been considered for University chairs.

Our immediate concern here is the performance of the Jaffna University. It is not even a decade old. It is still in the process of development and thanks to the individual initiative of some of the professors certain significant developments have taken place. However, the present clique of ruling Brahmins of the University appears to lack vision and imagination to take it forward. This has led to certain amount of consternation among the well-wishers of the University. There was a fear whether Jaffna University too would go the way Peradeniya had gone with the inevitable crash thereafter. In order to check this tendency, an outside organisation OOTRU (A Centre for Development Studies—publishes a valuable journal in Tamil devoted to science, technology, agriculture and development studies) containing

the guidelines set by University's South Asian Study Seminar Organisation. The Seminar highlighted the regional nature of the new Universities and the contribution each could make to the development efforts of the country as a whole (vide OOTRU Proceedings of the Role of the University in Our Changing Society—with special reference to the University of Jaffna, September 20, 1980). The seminar stressed the need for the establishment of a Faculty of Agriculture and Engineering.

It is said that at the very opening of this University (then a Campus) the then Premier Siravo Bandaranaike promised to set up an Agriculture Faculty. But the presiding deity at Peradeniya's Agriculture Faculty Prof. R. R. Appaduari and a special Committee vetoed the establishment of such a faculty. Though the University Grants Commission accepted the need for such a Faculty in principle it did not want to reproduce a replica of the Peradeniya model. Thereafter Prof. Jogaratnam presented a revised plan (1978). Though this plan was prepared well ahead of time it was not presented to the UGC in time. By that time it was taken up the UGC has come with the expected excuse that there were no funds. The question that is uppermost in the minds of the people who had worked hard on it is this, would it not be true that if it had not been delayed for six months UGC would have okayed it? Was this report shelved by interested parties? Was the head of the University a party to it? Or showed little interest in the establishment of this faculty? The Vice-Chancellor himself, in his Corporate Plan dated 28th November 1980, argued for the case of engineering and agriculture facilities. "While Jaffna has a tradition of profit motivated agriculture, there are several problems that require urgent attention for continued expansion of agriculture. Intensive cropping in many areas has surfaced numerous problems such as rapid decline of water in the wells, salinity, pests and disease build up etc. There are peculiar to the area and a university setup that area can best deal with them. Continued intensive cropping for sustained profits require high levels of management. All these and other problems can usually engage the attention of staff and students and bring the Campus into active involvement with the Community" (p. 21—Corporate Plan). The Justification for an Engineering faculty was detailed in pp. 11—13 of the plan. These faculties were to be shifted to Kilinochchi having made a start in Thirunelveli as the mainland is now becoming important centres of cultivation.

It is our belief that this agitation should be taken out of the mess now within and outside the University. There is now talk of a private University; to what extent these people could draw support from the endowments of Sri P. Ramanathan, Malavarayar and other philanthropists is doubtful. The experience of the Tamil University movement is before us. What a colossal wastage of funds and energy.

TRIBUNE, APRIL 3, 1982

Tamil Imported Films

Sir,

I have with great interest read all that is written about the National Film Corporation in the Tribune by Mr. Asoka David, Mr. Anton Wickramasinghe and others. Mr. Asoka David in his open letter in the issue of January 30th, in para four refers to a cinema owner in the Eastern Province who told him about not getting imported new films for the past two years. I who made the statement to Mr. Asoka David and now confirm my cinema, even now does not get any good imported Tamil films.

The system of precedence order, rotational turn, etc are the best way of distribution of films in a state organisation. Provided if all the Tamil films imported are very good, this is what happened in the previous management before 1978. Now when good and bad films are imported, and on the rotational turn the cinemas that gets bad films, have poor business. This is what happens to my cinema at Chenkaladi now. After investing money on a business, I have to depend on films selected by someone else and on luck. I do not make any money nor satisfy my patrons.

The only way the National Film Corporation can remedy this is to buy all good films. This is very simple because India producers about 150 Tamil films a year and at least 50 of them are box office hits. The N. F. C. buys about 20 films a year, so selecting 20 out of 50 is simple. The eminent and incorruptible personalities who has selected the films so far either have still not studied our audience taste, or the pattern they follow in purchasing the films, is forcing them to buy the bad films also, otherwise the people who brought *Neeya*, *Pattankathi Bhairavan*, *Guru* etc. would not have bought *Avan Awal Athu*, *Mohana Punnakai* etc.

We theatre owners are now facing a severe competition from the video films screened in mini cinemas all over the Tamil speaking areas, and from Rupavahini which shows Tamil films in their programmes on which day the cinema hall is empty. The N. F. C. either must select all box office films or allows us to make our own arrangement, to get the films like the Theatres screening English films in Colombo. If this is allowed I am prepared to contribute a fund towards Rupavahini, to provide better programmes than showing feature films.

T. Namasivayam
Proprietor
Saratha Theatre
(Chenkaaldi).

March 22, 1982.

"... It is to the credit of the people of Ceylon that during two thousand years and more they obeyed this decree and continued to pay their homage to one who was a brave man and just and humane ruler".
—G. P. Malalasekera in *The Pali Literature of Ceylon* Colombo, 1928 p. 25.

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March 14-20

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS- PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; *CDM*—Ceylon Daily Mirror; *CO*—Ceylon Observer; *ST*—Sunday Times; *SO*—Sunday Observer; *DM*—Dinamina; *LD*—Lankadipa; *VK*—Virakesari; *ATH*—Aththa; *SM*—Silumina; *SLDP*—Sri Lankadipa; *JD*—Janadina; *SU*—Sun; *DV*—Davasa; *DP*—Dinapathi; *CM*—Chinthamani; *WK*—Weekend; *RR*—Riviresa; *DK*—Dinakara; *EN*—Eelanadu; *IS*—Island; *DI*—Divaina; *IDPR*—Information Dept. Press Release

SUNDAY, MARCH 14: The Government has decided to increase by 42 percent the Food Stamps now issued to 7,500,000 persons to make up for the rise in prices of commodities; it will cost the exchequer Rs. 1,000 million more; a recent study made by the Ministry of Plan Implementation (Nutrition Division) showed that the real value of Food Stamps has dropped by 42 percent due to escalating prices—*SO*. Delegates from 150 countries will converge on Sri Lanka to discuss matters pertaining to three of the world's major religions and how they can bring peace to the world; Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims will send delegates to attend the conferences, the first beginning on March 20 on Islam the second on April 21 on Hinduism and the third on June 6 on Buddhism. Mr. Rudra Rajasingham takes over as Inspector General of Police tomorrow—*ST*. The Government is to review certain clauses of the Public Contract Law which was drafted by the Legal Draftsman to crack down on all state officials who are alleged to be skimming off huge sums from public contracts and tenders. SLFP (S) leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike yesterday challenged the President and the Government to restore her civic rights and face her at the 1983 general elections.—*WK*.

MONDAY, MARCH 15: Remittances from Lankans working abroad, which have nearly trebled last year from the previous year's performance now come behind tea as the country's second largest exchange earner; authoritative governmental sources said yesterday that earnings from foreign employment had grown from 2,518 million in 1980 to Rs. 4,400 million last year. President J. R. Jayewardene speaking at the annual sessions of the CWC, said that much had been done for the plantation workers by this government but that was not sufficient. Mr. Maithripala Senanayake said yesterday that he welcomed unity in the SLFP and called upon members of what he described as the "breakaway group", to return to the fold—*CDN*. President J. R. Jayewardene

addressing the 27th Session of the CWC at Nuwara Eliya yesterday declared that the government would continue to implement the 1964 and 1975 agreements between Sri Lanka and India relating to the grant of citizenship to persons of Indian origin here and predicted that there would be no Stateless people by 1988—*CDM*. Two daring robberies took place on successive nights when armed youths got away with cash and jewellery worth 175,000 rupees from the Captain Garden Hindu Kovil at McCallum Road last week. Overseas aid will be sought by the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Construction for the financing of projects undertaken by Gramadoya Mandalayas; a team from the United States, including Dr. Cyril Ponnampereuma, will arrive in Sri Lanka shortly and Lanka will then be in a position to obtain aid through voluntary organisations in the US, Ministry sources said yesterday—*SU*. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday assured the country's plantation workers that the Government would treat them fairly in the allocation of resources and was always ready to give a better deal to the estate workers; he was addressing the annual sessions of the Ceylon Worker's Congress at Nuwara Eliya—*IS*. The Cabinet the proposed to increase the salaries of the police force. The Commissioner of Education the decided to give most of the teaching appointments in difficult areas as teachers are not sufficient in rural schools—*DIV*. At a meeting held in Nuwara Eliya the President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene stated that more than 6 lakhs of Indian tamils have to go back to India and only four lakhs of them have asked for Indian citizenship—*LD*.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16: The current drought has dealt a kidney punch to Sri Lanka's vital coconut industry which is already deep down in the doldrums, according to a senior Coconut Research Institute (CRI) scientist; Mr. M. Jeganathan, head of the CRI'S Soils and Plant Nutrition Division said that an alarming fall of button nuts (immature coconuts) has been observed in plantations country-wide. Mrs. Daya Sepali Senadheera (38), widow of the late Mr. Bandulahewa Senadheera, has been nominated by the UNP as the MP for Karadeniya; Mrs. Senadheera fills the vacancy created by her husband's death in January. Police headquarters on Sunday alerted all OICs of police stations, especially in the dry zone, against forest fires due to the severe drought prevailing in the country—*CDN*. The latest in the country's political scene is the holding of unity talks by the two SLFP factions; while Mrs. Bandaranaike is having discussions with her son Anura Bandaranaike for unity between the two groups Mr. Maithiripala Senanayake is said to be holding discussions to join with the other left parties. A novel housing scheme that will bring a considerable amount of foreign exchange has been planned by a foreign firm with Sri Lanka collaboration Under

this scheme millionaire tourists can get long-term leaseholds of houses by the sea coast off Waikkal in the Wennapuwa electorate; already 40 such houses are under construction at Kammala, Waikkal—*CDM*. The Government has given the greenlight to a series of amendments to the Motor Traffic Act in a bid to regulate and control the proliferating private omnibus services and to cover up several loopholes in the law. Two hardcore terrorists were yesterday, captured by the public in Jaffna following a terrorist attempt to rob the payroll of more than 650,000 rupees from a state institution at Urani, Jaffna—*SU*. The latest report of the Ceylon Tourist Board reveals a dramatic percentage drop in the arrival of tourists to Sri Lanka. The Ministry of Food and Cooperatives has now printed food stamps to the value of Rs. 75, million to be issued to peasants in the drought-affected districts, a Ministry spokesman said yesterday—*IS*. A large number of cases of Cholera have been reported in the past two and a half months; according to the Ministry of Health 127 positive cases of cholera have been reported since the beginning of this year; eight of the victims of this disease died over the same period—*CO*. Government doctors have asked the Cabinet to consider increasing their salaries the government has promised to do so very soon. Flats constructed by the Department of Housing are not being sold as yet; out of 2,447 flats built by the National Housing Department only 54 have been sold up to date; these flats are not being bought because the prices are very high; the flats are at Seeduwa, Randoluwa, Wellawatte, Claremont Road, Bullers Lane, Maradana, Nugegoda, Arupola and Hantane, the department is now considering bringing down the price of these flats by 50%; by this the department will face a loss of about 15 million rupees it is said—*DI*.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17: Bad drivers will soon risk having their licences suspended under amendments to the Motor Traffic Act now being considered by the government; the new law enables suspension of a licence for rash and negligent driving, speeding or causing an accident that results in loss of life or grievous injury. The International Development Association an affiliate of the World Bank has approved a credit of Rs. 735 million for part financing the foreign cost of the Kotmale transmission project. The water levels in the two major reservoirs at Mousakelle and Castlereagh yesterday stood at 46' 11½" and 40' 1' below spill level respectively, the Ministry of Power and Energy said—*CDN*. The reunited Sri Lanka Freedom Party is to come under a collective leadership with each top rung in charge of a district in terms of an accord reached on Monday night. These decisions will be endorsed at a meeting of the politburo today; the accord came when the two feuding factions met to work out a joint action programme for the future. Kayts police yesterday recovered two self-loading rifles which were captured by terrorists who fired at three soldiers near the Kurukadduwa jetty last month—*SU*. Tourist arrival figures for January 1982 show a decline when compared to the corresponding period last year; only 40,932 tourists arrived in Sri Lanka in January 1982 compared to 45,168 in January 1981; this represents a drop of 8.4 percent. The National Housing Development Authority which has built 2,447 houses at a cost of 1,000 million has been able to sell only 54 houses to the public; the rest have not been sold because there are no takers on account of the high prices and since the houses do not conform to the taste of the buyers, the NHDA insiders say—*IS*. Tomorrow President J. R. Jayewardene celebrates his 50th year since taking oath as an Advocate (as they were then called) of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka—*CO*. For the first time yesterday five suspects allegedly involved in the robbery of Rs. 81 lakhs from the People's Bank at Neervely and the shooting down of two police officers, were produced in the High Court of Colombo yesterday—*DP*.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18: Cabinet approved the proposal that the ceremonial opening of the new Parliament at Sri Jayawardenapura take place on April 29, 1982. Sri Lanka's population, generally considered youthful, is growing older; the proportion of under 15s in the country has dropped to 35.3 percent from 39 percent in the 1971 census; this has emerged from a sampling of the figures gathered during last year's national census, the Director of Census and Statistics Mr. W. A. A. S. Periris said. Twenty five scholarships, will be awarded to deserving law students today at the law College by President J. R. Jayewardene who will be the chief guest at a ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the President's entry into the legal profession—*CDN*. The unofficial Rosmead Place discussions for unity between the two SLFP factions, had produced decisions only on two resolutions; in terms of one of these resolutions both warring factions had agreed to launch a joint campaign to defeat the UNP and that this should be from a common platform. The Cabinet yesterday approved the recommendation of President Jayewardene that the Home Guards scheme should come into effect from May 11 this year—*CDM*. The area coming under the Kotte Urban Council and the lands bordering the new Parliament will be known as Sri Jayawardenapura as from April 29, the ceremonial opening of the complex by President J. R. Jayewardene. An official committee of District Ministers has recommended a series of modifications to the Job Bank scheme which it says should be renamed Manpower Resources Bank; the committee has said that each electorate should be entitled to up to 3,000 new job bank forms but that all these forms should not be issued at once. A separate ward has been set up at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Cholera patients following a new outbreak of the disease Health Minister Gamini Jayasuriya announced yesterday. Work on the Victoria project came to a complete standstill yesterday when nearly 2,500

workers walked out of the work site in a dispute over payments—*SU*. The Bank of Ceylon and four foreign banks, which opened branches here in the last three years, have been successful in flushing out "black money" through the sale of Certificates of Deposit—*CO*. The Court of Appeal made order yesterday that the registration of cases regarding incidents in the Northern and Eastern provinces which are heard in any part of the country should be made in Tamil; this order which is a turning point in the use of the Tamil language was made the case against Selverajah Yogachandran alias Kuttimani yesterday—*DP*. President J. R. Jayewardene assured the Cabinet yesterday that the question of salary increases for doctors will be discussed with Minister of Health this week—*VK*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19: The failure of the Cement Corporation to reach its production targets last year and of the trade to import a sufficient quantity to meet the demand has pushed up the open market price of cement to over Rs. 100 per bag, official sources said yesterday. The Rs. 5,200 ceiling on salaries of government servants is affecting some medical specialists in the Health Department doing administrative duties—*CDN*. Medical authorities have fears that the present cholera outbreak in the vicinity of the Kelani river banks at Peliyagoda may lead to a serious epidemic—*CDM*. President J. R. Jayewardene, saying he had much more to do for the country, yesterday appealed to the people to give the UNP government another term "to mould this country to what is our heart's desire"—*SU*. Coming a Censor Board for all TV programmes—features as well as commercials; this announcement was made by the Minister of State, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis yesterday—*IS*. Sri Lanka's inflation rate has dropped from 35 percent to 20. Two years ago it was as high as 43 percent—*CO*. The Katunayake International Airport will be handed over to a new Company from June 1982; the Chairman of this company will be Gen. Sepala Attyagalle, Rudra Rajasingham, Col. H. L. Wijekoon, D. Athulathmulal and Rakhitta Wickrema; nayake.—*DI*. Five thousand teachers will be appointed on 21st April on District basis; eight thousand people have been called up for interviews for such appointment to be held between 25th and 28th of this month—*DP*. In the belief that general elections might be held at any moment, opposition parties are organising an opposition front to fight against the ruling party—*VK*.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20: The drought has badly hit Sri Lanka's tea production and the trade said yesterday that February crop losses are running at twice the drop in the January crop. Mrs. Bandaranaike has no right to blame me or my government for losing her civic rights; she must take the responsibility for her disqualifications herself, President J. R. Jayewardene told a meeting at Minuwangoda yes-

terday—*CDN*. Crime Detective Bureau teams were despatched to outstations for investigations in connection with a daring daylight robbery and hijack at a leading mercantile firm in Colombo yesterday morning. The State Gem Corporation is to shortly set up a diamond cutting centre in a joint venture with a leading Belgian firm—*SU*. Intense rivalry between the two terrorist groups in the North has erupted into pamphlet warfare; pamphlets and handbills now being circulated by the Umamaheswaran and Prabhakaran groups in which each group praises itself while attacking the other; police sources believe that the pamphlets indicate the personality clash between Umamaheswaran and Prabhakaran which split the terrorist movement—*IS*.



WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

March 13-19

ASIA

INDIA: Visiting Soviet Defence Minister Dimitry Ustinov assured India of continued Soviet assistance to achieve self-reliance in the sphere of defence. Soviet Defence Minister visited Indian arms factories. He said that friendship between Soviet Union and India was not be directed against anyone. A 11-week coalition government of Chief Minister K. Karunkaran in Kerala resigned as it lost a slim assembly majority. Yet another State Government in India, Assam, too resigned. In both areas Indira Gandhi's Congress had a slim majority. Indian President Sanjiva Reddy emphasised the need for India and Bhutan to continue the special relationship. India's elder statesman, Jiwatram Karipalani died this week. He was a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, a member of the Lok Sabha for 20 years and was a critic of Indira Gandhi's emergency rule. India has promised to aid Bhutan with an amount worth Rs. 167 million during her current six year plan. Both Kerala and Assam were brought under President rule. **PAKISTAN:** The military Government was determined not to tolerate opposition to its regime in whatever form. This week it broke up a meeting organised by the National Democratic Party to mourn the death of the former governor of North Western Frontier Province, a prominent member of the NDP. Leaders of the Pakistan Opposition parties were served with notices warning them not to organize processions demanding restoration of democracy and holding political meetings. Pakistan police broke up a demonstration of leaders demanding higher pay. Pakistan military authorities appear to view any demonstration against its authority as politically motivated. **CHINA:** The Chinese Communist Party has begun to purge the leftists who supported the Gang of Four. China, though irritated over the recalcitrant attitude of the Kampuchean

resistance leader Son San to join the other two groups yet denied that it had cut off aid to him. China accused Soviet Union of setting up bases in Indo-China to expand its influence in the area and South East Asia. China has sent out notices to embassies in Peking to advise their governments not to allow a quit upgrading of relations with Taiwan. Chinese ideological journal *Red Flag* appealed to the elderly leaders to retain their positions. There has already been a campaign aimed at replacing the old bureaucracy with young technocrats. China too declared Brezhnev's offer of a nuclear missile freeze in Europe as a mere propaganda gimmick. **BAHRAIN:** Bahraini Premier Sheik Al-Khalifa said that Egypt was welcome to join the Arab-fold provided she give up the separate peace with Israel which does not guarantee a lasting solution to the Palestinian problem. **IRAN:** Iran will supply Syria with 3.7 million tonnes of crude oil next year. Syria bought its requirement earlier from Iraq. Iran and Syria were of opinion that the non-aligned conference scheduled to be held in Baghdad in September should be either postponed or held in some other capital. In a joint Iranian-Syrian communique US was described as the "great Satan" and an appeal was made to Arab countries not to fall in for American imperialist plots.

EUROPE

WEST GERMANY: A team of US officials headed by under-Secretary of State Buckley had arrived in Bonn in an attempt to convince and persuade West European countries to take a harder line on sanctions against Soviet bloc. NATO's Supreme Commander Gen. Bernard Fogers dismissed the Soviet missile freeze as an attempt to divide the Western allies and that the Soviet Union had almost completed the deployment of SS 20 missiles. **AUSTRIA:** East European allies, elated over Soviet announcement of a nuclear freeze called for a positive response from the West. The 13-nation exporter group of the OPEC met at an emergency session to prevent a further toppling of the price and have decided to set a ceiling of 18 million barrels a day on oil production. **SOVIET UNION:** In a surprise move on the ongoing disarmament dialogue Soviet President Brezhnev announced a unilateral halt of its triple war head SS 20 nuclear missile west of Ural mountains. But NATO diplomats in Moscow were puzzled over Soviet statements. President Brezhnev said that trade sanctions of the US allies would boomerang on them and would not in any way hurt the Soviet Union and her allies. Moscow was hurt over US rejection of the freeze or deployment of Soviet medium range missiles in Europe. Tass said that the US had bombed aside the proposal without bothering to study it. **UNITED KINGDOM:** As robberies and violent crimes showed marked increase British Police have called for the return of capital punishment as a deterrent measure. But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher doubted whether Parliament would vote

in favour. A former Defence Minister and now a Liberal Party spokesman on Defence, and publisher of Middle East International journal, Lord Mayhem, said that US alignment with Israel has created a dangerous split in the western alliance; while the European Economic Community has persuaded Palestinians to settle differences with Israel, US has not done anything to influence Israel to mend her ways. The anti-Catholic demonstrators opposed to the visit of the Pope had forced the Archbishop of Canterbury to abandon a church service in his home town at Liverpool.

AFRICA

EGYPT: President Hosni Mubarak said that he will not visit Jerusalem in the course of his visit to Israel as there was a basic difference over its unification. Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister told the French Socialist Daily *La Matin*, that Egypt would involve other Arab countries in her efforts to achieve solutions to problems in West Asia once the Israelis withdraw from Sinai. **ANGOLA:** South African forces entered Angolan territories in search of Namibian liberation guerillas. Angolan Embassy in Paris issued a statement that South Africa had been planning a major offensive against Angola with the tacit support of US, Britain and West Germany. South African forces killed nearly 201 SWAPO guerillas inside Angola. **CHAD:** Since the Libyan troops pulled out of Chad in November last year the rebel guerilla forces of the former Defence Minister Hissana Habu appear to have captured control over half the country.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES: Former Israeli Prime Minister Rabin accused the Reagan administration of treating the Camp David peace settlement like an illegitimate baby left behind by Jimmy Carter. It was reported that the US administration had been considering a Mexican suggestion to have a dialogue with Cuba and Nicaragua to end the guerilla war in El Salvador. US would once again ignore Libyan protests and would hold more naval exercise in the Gulf of Sidra in the Mediterranean. US will soon test a weapon to destroy all surveillance satellites. President Reagan dismissed Brezhnev's arms freeze as a propaganda move. Officials predicted that it was meant to split the Atlantic alliance and the fact that SS 20s have 3,000 mile range power which could reach Western Europe, made the announcement meaningless. US has received only a cool response from West Germany and France for a credit squeeze against Moscow. President Reagan appealed to the Americans not to aid the Northern Ireland guerillas financially or otherwise. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger said that the administration would not tolerate the stationing of Soviet missiles in Cuba. A pro-military group of US leading persona-

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lities, including President Reagan, found the administration's defence spending to be minimal and wants it to be increased by another 100 billion dollars. US has indirectly warned the El Salvadorean voters that US support depends on the continuation of the current region program and human rights improvement. According to *New York Times* CBS news poll, President Reagan's popularity rating was slipping fast. In foreign policy matters 40 percent of the people disapproved his policies and fear that Reagan may involve US in a war in El Salvador or elsewhere in Central American (in Central American CAN (in Central American CANADA). As a protest against the transfer of Canadian Constitution from Britain to Canada, the ruling party of the Quebec province will send 74 toilet bowls to the 74 members of Premier Trudeau's Liberal Party who represent Quebec constituencies in Federal Parliament. It was unlikely that Quebec Premier Rene Levesque would attend the inauguration ceremonies in which Queen Elizabeth was expected to participate. Canadian Parliament entered a period of impasse over a Government Energy Security Bill. The government lumped together several pieces of legislation which the Opposition wanted to split into 10 and on governments refusal boycotted Parliament. They however ended the boycott on the 17th when the government agreed to split the bill. **NICARAGUA:** The Government of Nicaragua has declared a 30 day State of Emergency and suspended constitutional rights and guarantees. This was a sequel to mounting tensions in the neighbouring El Salvador. Fearing a possible invasion of their country the government began to take emergency measures to face it. Nicaragua feared the collaboration of North American and some Central American countries against her. Nicaragua has complained to the United Nations Security Council that the US was planning to invade her EL SALVADOR. As the day for election to the Constitution Assembly approached closer leftist guerillas have heightened their attacks. Four members of a Dutch radio and television were caught in a crossfire between government forces and guerillas and were killed. But a Dutch paper accused the El Salvadorean government troops for the killings. The paper claimed that the government troops apparently angered over the prominence given to the guerillas lured the newsmen into a trap.



ANNAKODDAI—2

Important Excavations

By S. K. Sitrapalam—University of Jaffna.

INTERESTINGLY one could see similar pottery sequence at Anuradhapura (Deraniyagala S. 1971). Mantai, an early historic harbour has also yielded

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roulette and arretine pottery. Recent borings in the old Mantai city have shown evidence for black and red ware. In this context the burial excavated by Shanmuganathan on the outskirts of the city shows a seeming relationship with Anaiikkodai, although many more details of the pottery types associated with the burial layer are wanting. This is also another example of an inhumation. The skeleton was found on a sloping shelf just on the outskirts of the ruined city in the sandy soil admixed with clay at the depth of 4'8" from the surface. Like the Anaiikkodai burials it lay with the feet pointing east and the head west. The head had rolled over to the right with the pelvis also similarly tilted. The knees were slightly drawn up and the hands lay folded across the lower chest. Overlying the burial on the top layer was Roman arretine ware. The height of the skeleton was 4'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Chanmugam and Jayawardene (1954) who have studied this skeleton expressed the view that this is of a female and classified as those of modern South Indian type. However, Kennedy (1975) thinks that this burial could be of late iron Age, rather than early historic.

Some years back Senaratne (1965) foresaw a similar pottery sequence of Arikamadu being repeated at Mantai. The finding at Kantarodai do confirm the Arikamadu pottery sequence. Mantai in the North Western Sri Lanka and Jambukolapattanam in the Northern Sri Lanka which emerged as important harbours during the early historic period of the Island which starts in middle of the 3rd century BC. The importance of this region during the early historic period suggests that these areas probably would have occupied during the megalithic phase as well. On the Northern Western coast Pomparippu Urn burial site in the Puttalam district offers many parallels with Adicchanallur of the Pandyan coast of Tamilnadu. Moreover the evidence for the presence of black and red ware at Tissamaharama, though Parker (1884) was unaware of this during his excavation, along with the presence of black and red ware in the Moneragalla and Ampara districts suggest that the Proto-history of Sri Lanka should really begin with the megalithic culture. The pottery sequence at Kantarodai in the northern Sri Lanka and Anuradhapura certainly parallels the South Indian pottery sequence. It looks as if Tissamaharama in the extreme south were excavated it would also yield a similar sequence.

IN THE LIGHT of the above archaeological data, besides the other megalithic burial sites which are dispersed in the dry zone portion of the Island, now at least we should view seriously the legends of the Proto-historic period namely the Vijaya-Pandukabhaya and the supposed non-human beings such as Nagas and the Yakkas. In this connection I would like to point out that the places mentioned in the *Pali Chronicles* as connected with early settlements seem to coincide with sites associated

with megalithic culture. While Mendis (1965) viewed these legends as unhistorical, Senaratne (1969: 27) observed that "In point of fact, there does not seem to be any evidence, either historical or archaeological which can substantiate this story". Hence the beginnings of the Proto-historic period of the Island could be assigned to the megalithic phase which began in South India by 1,000 BC. and lasted till in and around the Christian era. The extension of this culture in to Sri Lanka could have taken one or two centuries. The geographical and the ecological similarity of the dry zone portion of Sri Lanka and South India would have facilitated this process. Sri Lanka being an Island, it is also possible that the megalithic customs would have retained some of their original characteristics. This shows culturally the present day Sinhala and Tamil speakers go back to a common cultural megalithic stratum, which began to bifurcate only after the introduction of Buddhism into the Island. The blood group analysis of the Sinhalese and Tamils as well as their relationship with the South Indian population as demonstrated by Kirk (1976) goes to confirm this. The Anthropological study of the physical remains of the megalithic builders from Pomparippu by Kennedy (1975) further substantiate this. Finally the Pre-Asokan Brahmi characters of Sri Lankan inscription as shown by Fernando (1969) as well as evidence of the rule of local chieftains such as Vels, Ays and Parumakas as in Tamilnadu clearly shows that during the Pre-Buddhist period the people of South India and Sri Lanka were in the same cultural zone.

TO COME BACK TO ANAIKODDAI an Mantai burials, although chronologically these are early historic yet, culturally they are megalithic. Also these reflect the continuation of the burial practices of the older times. The megalithic sites in Jaffna, Mannar, Puttlam, Vavuniya and Anuradhapura almost compel us to do some rethinking about the Nagas and the yakkas who are supposed to have inhabited the Island during the pre and proto historic times. Surprisingly enough the above districts fall in the old Nagadipa of the chronicles which incidentally covered a wide area than the narrow confines at present. Even Ptolemy in the 2nd century AD refers to this.

Paranavitana and Mendis following the lead given in the chronicles thought that these Nagas and Yakkas to be non-human beings. However, one could see a confusion even in the writings of Paranavitana who also says that "Thus the vast majority of the people who today speak Sinhalese or Tamil must ultimately be descended from those autochthonous people of whom we know next to nothing". Nevertheless the study of Kennedy (1965) shows that the present day Veddas are the lineal descendants of the late stone age people who were mainly concentrated in the central part of the Island. Geiger and others view the reference in the *Pali Chronicles* to the Yakkas and Veddas.

As we all know the Nagas figure during the visits of Lord Buddha to Island and there were two Naga Kingdoms, one in the North and the other in the Kelaniya region. In the early historic period we also come across Kings with the Naga suffixes. Nagas do figure in the early Brahmi inscriptions of Sri Lanka unlike the Yakkas. In the light of this evidence it is impossible to think that the Nagas like the Yakkas were non-human beings. If the Veddas (Yakkas) could be classed as the Austroleod language speakers then with some reservations the Nagas could be a part of the megalithic people who had either worshipped snakes or who probably had snake as their totem symbols and most likely spoke some form of a Dravidian dialect.

THE IMPORTANCE of the Anaikoddi site is that for the first time we have come across burials in the extreme north of the Island assignable to the early historic period. As we all know this was the old Nagadipa of the *Pali Chronicles*. Although the Anthropologists are yet to study the skeletal remains, from the data available it is reasonable to presume that this also would have the same affinity as that of Mantai and Pomparippu remains. The site itself possesses some potentiality as that of Kantarodai.

Since it lies close to the coast and if systematic excavations have been carried out many more details will be forthcoming about the sea traffic and trade of those days. The findings of seal is again a pointer towards this. The presence of rouletted ware sheds throw more light on the external contact with the Roman World. Anaikoddi, Kanderodai Karainagar and Allapiddi and surrounding areas have sufficient potential for archaeological study. The research findings would yield fruitful historical materials and relics that would be of immense value to reconstruct on of the pre and proto-historic period of our Island's history.

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Concluded.

DEVELOPMENT

Sex Tourism

By Jane Cottingham

A GROWING FORM OF EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN today is the sex tourism industry. This has been organised on a large scale and in a systematic way, particularly in certain Third World countries. The most blatant examples are found in the Philippines, South Korea and Thailand, where hundreds of thousands of women are economically and sexually exploited by the tourist industries of the industrialized countries. "Thailand is a world full of extremes, and the possibilities are limitless. Anything goes in this exotic country—especially when it comes to girls. Yet visitors to Thailand cannot always find the exciting places where they can indulge in unknown pleasures. It is frustrating to have to ask the hotel receptionist in broken English where you can pick up pretty girls. Rosie Reisen has come up with the answer. For the first time in history you can book a trip to Thailand with erotic pleasure included in the price..." Beneath this travel agent's advertisement lies a whole world—an industry flourishing in industrialized and developing countries alike: *sex tourism*. Over the past decade agencies such as Rosie Reisen have mushroomed in some countries of Western Europe, offering to men the glamour of the orient and the 'excitement' of Asian women.

In the South East Asian countries of South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand—the main target of such tours—hotels, night clubs, bars, discotheques, massage parlours are all found in abundance, their main purpose being to sell sex to foreign male tourists. In Japan, all the big travel agencies handle large tours, especially to South Korea, where *kisaeng* (meaning prostitute parties) are automatically included in the price. Small and medium-sized companies send their employees on "rest and recreation" holidays there, and the number of male Japanese tourists to South Korea has nearly trebled in the past 10 years. Indeed, the industry is a very lucrative one. The World Tourism Organisation estimates the income from international tourism in 1980 at US\$ 75 billion—a sum which represents the highest figure of world trade. In 1977 Thailand received 1.2 million foreigners: in 1981 that number will be doubled. It is the third highest source of currency earnings in the country, bringing in more than \$ 220 million. Rice provides \$ 290 million and sugar \$ 260 million. The present estimate of income from tourism in South Korea is nearly \$ 300 million. In the Philippines, the tourist industry has grown from a negligible dollar earner in the 1960s to the fourth largest source of foreign exchange in the late 1970s. In 1977 tourism brought in over \$ 300 million, \$ 262 million more than in 1972. Clearly, for many developing

countries tourism is seen as a major source of foreign currency which they do desperately need. But at whose cost? And so to whose benefit?

One of the main incentives for the incredible growth of the sex-tourism industry in South East Asia is the availability of women in these countries. Historically, the societies of East and South East Asia have had a clear patriarchal tradition with elaborate systems of prostitution embedded in the culture. For the men of land-owning classes, marriage represented essentially an economic contract and an institution for procreation. They sought love and romance in the world of brothels, referred to in literary tradition as "flowers and green pastures". The prostitutes were sometimes educated women, but more often the daughters of poor families, sold to alleviate the miseries of poverty. They were totally dependent on the managers of the brothels. Subsequent developments—foreign invaders, land expropriation, and more recent bids for "economic growth"—have ensured the spread of prostitution at all levels of society. The decline of subsistence agriculture in favour of mass cultivation for export has pushed many people off the land. This, combined with the development of textile and electronics industries, has drawn people to urban areas. For women the situation is dismal: with little education and no money, they have the choice of factory work, domestic service or prostitution. Each of these is abysmally badly paid and insecure but the last is probably the most lucrative, and sometimes it is the only alternative. Some women will be the sole bread-winners for families of eight to ten, their parents being dead or infirm and their brothers unemployed. Many of them cannot tell others how they earn their money, so deceit and secrecy are part of their lives.

ONE STORY from the *Bangkok Post* tells of Noi, who is 20 years old and looks for clients independently in the evenings in the cafes, working in a battery factory during the day. "I get 25 baht per day but this is not enough to cover my expenses. How could this be enough to pay for my rent, my food, my bus tickets and other expenses? And I can tell you, I am thrifty". Noi's eight brothers and sisters live with their parents, peasants from Ayutthaya whose only means of sustenance comes from Noi. "I have to find work at night so that I can send money to my parents. I don't live in a brothel so that I can be free to go work during the day". Another powerful factor has been the presence of US military bases in the South East Asian region. One example in the US naval base at Subic Bay in the Philippines, established since 1904. The base has given rise to an enormous "rest and recreation industry" (commonly referred to as R & R) which, although officially claimed to be "plain entertainment" amounts to a business of organized prostitution. It is controlled and run by the local "capitalist" class, often consisting of city government officials or professionals, while the R & R

employees (hostesses, go-go dancers, waiters, waitresses, massage attendants, striptease artists etc.) earn an average of \$ 35 month.

PROSTITUTION is often referred to as "the world's oldest profession". This in itself is significant of the extent of which women have always been both at the "service" of men and dependent on them. There have been few rich prostitutes in the world's history. Usually, women have been driven by economic necessity, caught in a vicious circle from which they rarely escape. In many societies, women who have been raped are treated as whores and have little choice but to become prostitutes. Indeed, it is a profound perversion of the male-oriented world that at the level prostitution is accepted with the wink of an eye, yet another prostitution is universally treated as a deviation from the social-sexual norm. Laws have always condemned prostitutes (although usually not their clients), rendering them perpetually furtive and always open to exploitation at all levels. In South Korea, Japan and the Philippines, prostitution is illegal; the official response to question about kisaeng tours or "hospitality girls" is: "But this is not possible—prostitution is illegal in our countries. These combined factors leave women powerless. They desperately need money and can nearly always find some source of income in prostitution. Yet their earnings are minimal. One researcher of the Philippines, talking of Japanese tours, reports that men on tour they pay \$ 50 for one night with a woman, a mere fraction of which ends up in the hands of the women. A rough breakdown shows that the club owner gets \$ 15, the tour operator \$ 15, the local guide \$ 10, the Japanese guide \$ 10. The woman receives between \$ 4.25 and \$ 5.75 from the owner's share. "They report that they often do not get even that much, because the club management imposes fines for improper dress, smoking, drinking, tardiness and other arbitrary infractions". Another reporter gives the client's sum as \$ 75, with \$ 30 going to the travel agent, \$ 30 to the club owner \$ 5 to the taxi drivers and only \$ 10 for the woman. Additional humiliations, resulting from their illegal status, include that women working as "hospitality girls" or kisaeng must carry identity cards (for which they must pay a certain fee) so that they will not be arrested. If working in hotels, women must enter and leave by the employees' entrance, with strict instructions not to enter before 5 a.m. or leave after 8 p.m. Hotels in the Philippines charge clients a \$ 10 "joiner's fee" for the service of allowing the woman to enter the hotel (this is independent of all other fees involved in having the women), and one source indicates some hotels making 40 percent of their gross income for the "joiner" system.

THE EXTREMES to which such exploitation of women's bodies will go are demonstrated vividly in a report by French journalist Herve Chaballier (*Matin de Paris*, December, 1980): "An experienced guide-

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a pimp, as the Filipinos call them—who saw me several times talking to two very young girls at the Melanie Club, apparently concluded that they liked virgins. One night he offered to get me a real virgin—very young. I said yes, just to see what he would propose. He said it would take 24 hours; he would send a telegram to the countryside to get one of his suppliers to send in a child by plane. . . . Only after trial, finding out whether the girl was really a virgin or not, would I have to pay 5,000 pesos (1 peso—US\$ 0.14 3,000 going to the supplier, 1,500 to the pimp and 500 to the young girl. . . .” Western businessmen; have been quick to see further possibilities in the body business. For \$ 800 one Austrian began to deliver Thai women to German, Dutch and Danish clients, who made them work as prostitutes in Western European hotels. A Bangkok agency enjoying good relations with the Government gave assistance with papers and visas. This led to a veritable slave market in Frankfurt, where an employer could hire a Thai for prostitution for a monthly fee of DM 5,000 (\$ 2,500) plus a DM 3,000 deposit. Earnings reached approximately DN 50,000 per quarter. The extent to which such an “industry” flourishes, not only, with Thai women but also with other South East Asians, is not well documented but undoubtedly warrants further investigation.

This horrific situation has not gone without protest. In 1973, women's groups in South Korea denounced kiaseng tourism. Demonstrations were organized at the airport where the kiaseng planes landed. The women carried placards in Japanese saying “We will through you beyond the sea, Japanese sex-monsters”. These events led to an awareness-building among women's movements, in Japan where women have demonstrated and carried out massive publicity campaigns against sex tours to Korea. In 1977, several groups started publishing a magazine, *Ajia to josei Kajo* (Asian Women's Liberation) and participated in trade union activities against the policies of the Japanese businesses in South East Asia. Church-related groups have also been active, and in September 1980 the Christian Conference of Asia sponsored an International Workshop on Tourism. It was held in Manila, Philippines, in recognition of the perverse direction of the tourist industry there, and encouraged by the fact that the Assembly of the World Tourism Organisation was to take place there later that month. One outcome of this meeting was a series of synchronized protest actions against organized sex tours in Asia, at the time of Japanese Premier Zuko Suzuki's visit to ASEAN countries in January this year. Beginning in the Philippines, organisations of local and national scope endorsed a letter of protest addressed to Premier Suzuki. Groups in other countries followed suit.

THE LETTER urged Premier Suzuki firstly to make an official statement banning the organisation in Japan of all sex tours, and secondly to take concrete

measures against those who are party to these organized sex tours: Japanese companies and businessmen, airlines, hotels, travel agencies and tour operators. The Premier, it seems, has promised to take the matter up within his Government. The Tourism Organisation of the Philippines (TOP) and the Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA) have allegedly condemned any tour expressly organized for the purpose of sex, or any tour where sex is an integral part of the tour programme. These are small trifles, but indicative of reaction in the face of international pressure. Most important, the action has given rise to the Third World Movement. Against the Exploitation of Women (TW-MAE-W) based in Manila, which for the first time gives a more coherent base to the action which can be taken. This is just the beginning. Tourism is powerful, and sex tourism even more so, because the money stakes are high. Governments are not anxious to put restrictions on such a high foreign currency earner. One government has even publicly exported its women to “participate” in tourism as a form of great patriotism. And concentrating on trying to eliminate prostitution in itself does nothing to alleviate the problem. Women are in desperate need of money. Banning prostitution, even if this were possible, would simply remove a source of income for them. As long as women are seen as sex objects, commodities to be bought and sold, and as long as the economics of developing countries are continually harnessed to those of the rich countries without a second thought for their peoples, women will continue to pay the price, and the human race will continue to be the worse for it. . . .

—Development Forum, June 1981. Published by the UN. University



LAW OF THE SEA

Confrontation?

NEW YORK, March 9. An atmosphere of confrontation between the United States and the developing countries marked the opening of another session of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea in New York. More than 150 countries, including the Soviet Union, are taking part in its work. The task of the session is to prepare for signing a convention on the law of the sea—the first comprehensive international legal document regulating the use of the World Ocean, including resources under its floor, in the interests of all nations. The draft convention was in the main completed more than a year ago after long and strenuous talks that required good will and mutual concessions from all parties. The USA approved the draft, too. But the Reagan administration, as it came into office, reneged on the promise given by its predecessor and unilaterally demanded

a revision of a major section of the convention dealing with rules and regulations governing the exploitation of mineral resources in the international area of the sea bed.

Opening the conference, Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary-General pointed to the importance of the concept formulated by it and regarding the wealth of the sea bed as a world asset of the whole of mankind. It means that in exploiting its resources account must be taken of the interests of all mankind. The UN Secretary-General recalled that to establish an equitable international order in the World Ocean requires concessions from each party. US attempts to secure a fundamental revision of the international agreements achieved were categorically rejected by I. ul-Haq (Pakistan), a representative of Group-77 of the developing countries. The situation in which we found ourselves at the beginning of this session is unfortunately one of confrontation, he emphasised. We are seeing attempts to delay the approval of the convention.

Speaking on behalf of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister S. P. Kozlyev supported Group-77's position. We, like the overwhelming majority of other conference participants, he said, still believe that the existing convention draft is balanced package of compromise understanding on all closely inter-related question of the law of the sea. All sections are part and parcel of that package. Consequently, a revision of the basic principle of even one section would be equivalent to destroying the whole fabric of the draft. This course of development would throw the conference far back, leading it into a blind alley, and would in fact torpedo the adoption of the convention. *Tass.*



NORWAY

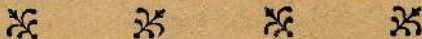
Current Trends

Moscow, March 10: The inner-political changes in Norway which found an expression in a bourgeois cabinet taking office in the autumn of last year, led to certain shifting of emphasis in the foreign policy of the country. Governmental circles in Oslo obviously are ready for greater concessions to pressure from the United States and other NATO ringleaders, which in turn leads to still further increase in this pressure, Mikhail Kostikov writes in *Pravda* on March 9. Following a series of "consultations" with Washington and other NATO leaders, Oslo began considering, for instance, that the question of a nuclear-free zone in the North of Europe is no longer "topical".

Norway's military budget has been increased this year by four per cent to equal 10,500 million

crowns. For per capita military expenditures Norway is now second among NATO members next to the United States, the author of the commentary points out. The NATO ringleaders, mainly the Pentagon, compelled the Norwegian leadership to begin accelerating the modernization of military objectives, above all, airfields and naval bases.

Norway also intensifies the use of earlier set up special radio navigation stations Loran C and Omega whose task is to serve, above all, the United States nuclear submarine fleet, the commentary says. In the near future, according to Norway's Defence Minister Anders Sjaastad, spy planes of the AWACS system will be able also to operate from Norwegian territory. The United States tries hard to speed up implementation of the agreement on the storing of heavy American armaments on Norwegian territory. Thus, the traditionally peace-loving Norwegian people are being drawn ever more deeply into the quagmire of militarization by the NATO supporters' efforts—*APN*



US PROPOSALS

Third World Rejects

UNITED NATIONS, March 16: DEVELOPING countries decided today to reject in its entirety the package of amendments proposed by the United States to the provisions of the draft Law of the Sea concerning sea-bed mining. The US, which re-entered the Law of the Sea Conference this year after staying away for the whole of 1981, proposed scores of amendments to the draft treaty in a 68-pages green booklet which it presented to the conference on Friday. These changes were discussed first by a small group of developing countries including India and later by the wider Group of 77. The consensus at both the meetings was that the US amendments were of such far-reaching nature as to change the basic character of the treaty as negotiated so far. If they were accepted, it would set back the work of the conference in the past nine years. As such, developing countries decided they must be rejected. The rejection of the US amendments has moved the negotiation to a crucial phase. According to the decision taken by the conference at its meeting in Geneva last year, the current session was to be the final, decision-making one and the treaty should be finalised by 30 April or there about with or without the participation of the United States and a few other western countries. It seems that this would be adhered to by the developing countries unless a compromise is effected by the conference president Tommy Biko of Singapore, or by some of the countries.

The next few days will show whether there will be a such a compromise move leading to re-opening

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of negotiations between the developing countries and the US or the former will go it alone with such support as it can muster from the industrialised countries. Already, the Nordic countries have indicated they would go along with the developing countries in concluding a treaty by the end of April as scheduled. The current session of the conference has attracted full participation. All the 168 countries participating in the discussions have sent their legal, scientific, marine and naval experts in a bid to ensure that their economic and strategic interests are fully safeguarded. The Indian official team is headed by Dr. S. P. Jagota, legal expert in the Ministry of External Affairs.

US Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who paid a visit to the United Nations today, had discussions with Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar, among other things on US participation in the Law of the Sea Conference. Mr. Haig told newsmen that the US had suggested modifications in the draft treaty in order to see that the treaty was ratified in the American Congress. One of the changes proposed by the US and strongly objected to by developing countries seeks to limit the scope of the treaty to manganese nodules found in the sea-bed and exclude from its scope the new discovered substance having more copper content known as polymetallic sulphide. Developing countries also feel that some of the US proposals as regard sea bed mining are destined to provide unrestricted freedom to exploit the ocean to its transitionals. In a new development today, the four industrialised countries—the US, Britain, France and West Germany announced they would not sign the 'mini treaty'. —PTI.



WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

On The Energy Market and OPEC

Washington, March 22: For the moment, market forces are working to weaken OPEC's (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) influence but there is no room for complacency, according to a White House statement. Following is the text of a fact sheet on International Energy Development released March 22 :

The effect of market forces on supply and demand of oil is also evident at the international level. From the end of 1978 to January 1981, the average OPEC price for a barrel of oil rose from 13 dollars to 35 dollars. After a similar rise in 1973, many oil-consuming nations including the United States, imposed

price controls and discouraged conservation as well as greater production. In 1980-81 however, the market was allowed to operate. Almost all of the industrial oil consuming countries, including the US, now permit market pricing of oil and most products. The results tell the story. Higher prices have reduced demand and encouraged production. World oil consumption in 1981 dropped 5 percent. Mean while non-OPEC production of oil increased 4 percent. These two developments combined to reduce OPEC oil production from 27 MBO in 1980 to an average of 23 MBO in 1981, some 8 MBO below peak levels in 1977. In the first quarter of this year, OPEC production dropped below 20 MBO. The decline in demand has occurred not only in the US but also in other countries. Oil consumption in West Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Italy dropped 10 percent in 1981. Meanwhile, GNP in these countries fell only 5 percent. Much of the decline in oil consumption, therefore, was due to substitution of other fuels and not the effect on the recession alone. Indeed non-oil energy consumption in these countries increased by 2 percent. Nuclear power generation alone increased 15 percent in the OECD countries. France by itself added eight new nuclear reactors to its power system. Conservation also accelerated. In the United States auto fleet efficiency increased 5 percent in 1981, and in European countries between 1 and 2 percent.

Throughout 1981, OPEC wrestled to come to terms with these market developments. Some producing countries tried to sustain the high prices reached at the beginning of 1981 averaging around 36 dollars barrel. As demand weakened at those prices, they found their production and export levels steadily dropping; others such as Saudi Arabia warned that prices may be too high maintained a lower average around 32 dollars per barrel. At year's end, the OPEC countries finally compromised and agreed to a price of 34 dollars per barrel and a set of price differentials which implicitly allocated production. Since then, however, market forces put further pressure on OPEC. Demand continued to fall. The US had an 8 percent decline in oil sales in January and another 4-5 percent in February. Similarly, oil sales in France fell by 23 percent in January and in Italy by 4 percent. In face of these pressures, some OPEC and non-OPEC countries began to shave price. Iran cut oil prices three times in February, trying to increase its share of exports. Other producing countries introduced implicit cuts by shaving price differentials or softening non-price terms of their oil contracts.

Over the weekend OPEC tried to patch up the agreement. They agreed to reduce production to 17.3 MBD. Saudi Arabia will cut its production from 8.5 MBO in February to 7 MBO in April. Venezuela will cut its production from 1.6 MBO to 1.6 MBO. Other countries agreed to hold their production at current levels or increase it only slightly, OPEC hopes

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to stabilize prices at the 34 dollar level. Will the agreement hold? Only time will tell. But there is no room for complacency. Two factors contributing to the reduction in oil demand—the recession and inventory draw downs—are transitory. How much effect a turn around in these factors will have on the market depends on the continued influence of other factors—increases in oil production in non-OPEC countries, substitution of other fuels and increased efficiency in the use of oil. Many of these factors are both ways. An end to the recession will increase oil demand but also spur investment and the use of more fuel-efficient equipment and cars, thereby conserving oil. Moreover, a lower oil price in the immediate future will not reverse the costly and long-term steps which have been taken to retool American industry and to insulate American homes. We are on the right track but we need to keep moving. For the moment, market forces are working to weaken OPEC's influence over world oil prices and the economic livelihood of the West. Lower oil prices mean more dollars in the pocket of Americans and less in the bank accounts of OPEC.

USICA.



A COMMENT

The Destruction of Christianity

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION' by Dr. Rama Coomaraswamy is an important book, important not so much for what he says (his general interpretations are questionable) but for what it stands; an attempt to assess the changes in Catholic doctrine and practice that have followed the Second Vatican Council. There have been few such attempts and none, I believe on the scale attempted by Dr. Coomaraswamy. It is even regarded, in some quarters, as an act of impiety to question these changes. This kind of obscurantism comes from, oddly enough, from what is outwardly the most liberal sections of opinion in the Church.

To understand this phenomenon one must understand the shape of contemporary Catholicism. The generality of Catholics, like the generality of other religionists, are becoming less and less interested in their religion. Statistics from Western countries show a steep decline in belief and practice. Operating in what is increasingly becoming a no-man's land are pockets of activity. One such is the social justice movement which, with the emergence of the Third World, assumes a tremendous importance.

Another is the ecumenical movement which in some quarters has developed to the point where it believes that we are on the threshold of a common, world religion, transcending all traditions. Influencing all groups is the thought of the Jesuit visionary Teilhard de Chardin who tried to intergrate evolution and religion. In fact, the dominant intellectual forces in the church accept as axiomatic the evolutionary idea—humanity is on an upward curve, no matter what the setbacks are; hence the belief that we must not question the changes that have come into the church after Vatican 2. The caravan of God's people is on the move and it is impious to question the Journey

HOW NECESSARY it is to do so, was shown recently in the case of the liturgy. The Anglican and Roman Catholic churches changed the forms of their liturgical services in the recent past, chiefly in respect of the language used. Both churches felt that public worship must be presented in standard modern English and not in a quasi-mediaeval tongue, unintelligible to modern audiences. (In the Catholic Church Latin was dropped prior to the modernisation). After over a decade of these modernised services Professor David Martin, of the London School of Economics, conducted in 1980 a survey of public attitudes to the new services. The findings were surprising. 56% of average members of the Church of England were against them; regular church-goers were evenly divided—18% for and 18% against. Young people and working class people, two groups for whom, it was said, the new versions were especially devised, appeared to be no happier than the rest: only 7% of regular church-goers in this group said they were very happy with it and only 3% of the age group 16-24 agreed with them. Professor Martin's conclusion, from this survey, was that it proves the case for returning, in the Anglican Church, to the 17th. century Book of Common Prayer and he pointed out that if the level of satisfaction experienced as a result of going to church falls, congregations will decline. These findings are strikingly similar to a German survey done among the Catholics of Allensbach in 1979. It showed that regular churchgoers were, like their Anglican counterparts, evenly divided for and against the revised forms of celebrating Mass. And official statistics in Europe show that regular attendance at Sunday Mass has dropped in the last fifteen years by an average of 50%.

It is facts like these that Dr. Coomaraswamy's book deals with, and, though one may disagree with the interpretation put on them by Dr. Coomaraswamy, yet the serious Catholic, as opposed to the doctrinaire intellectual, would surely find in the book much to think over on the state of his church today.

Albert Perera Avenue,
Nugegoda.
20.03.82.

Narada de Silva

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PERIODICALS FROM THE USSR

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TRIBUNE

Agricultural Digest

CITRUS CULTIVATION—2

Import of Planting Materials

By Dr. Robert M. Pratt

This is the second instalment of the Report prepared by IESC and the JEDB on Citrus Cultivation in the Monaragala and Bibile Districts.

The *tristeza virus* is widespread, as is its vector, the aphid *Toxoptera Citricida*. It is probably present in all mature trees. Symptoms can be found readily in lime leaves. The disease however is not a significant factor in the decline of citrus growing because seedling oranges and the local limes are tolerant. The greening disease may be present, but I have not been able to find its *psyllid vector*, *Diaphorina Citri*. This insect is not known to the Entomologists at C.A.R.I. Therefore I do not believe greening is a significant factor in decline. Village garden plantings are almost completely neglected, receiving no fertiliser and or pest control and are often overgrown with weeds and creepers, or interplanted with taller trees. Some are planted as little as 6 feet apart, some are planted on shallow soils. I have examined a 30 year rainfall record from Okkampitiya, and partial records from Bibile and Monaragala. There is a slow downward trend over the 30 year period. This cannot explain the more or less sudden collapse of the industry, but it points up the necessity of selecting sites and conducting operations to minimise the impact of drought. The lower Uva region is marginal for citrus growing because of the rainfall pattern. There is enough total rainfall in most years but the length of the drought is critical. A drought prolonged will reduce fruiting and damage roots. Dr. Eddie Herath says most of the lime trees were killed by the drought prolonged of 1973-74.

ORCHARD SITES proposed by Monaragala, Kumarawatte and Bibile Estates were examined by Percy Silva, a soils specialist from R. R. I. He found that the soils were too shallow for citrus, except for about 5 acres at Bibile. If citrus is to be grown without irrigation it is necessary to find parcels

with deeper soil. Otherwise the trees will suffer in dry years. The plantings near Inginiyagala were in better condition than those near Bibile and Monaragala, probably because the soils are deeper. It continues to be my opinion that the decline of citrus production is not due to "the virus" as many people have been quick to suggest, but to the failure to apply necessary cultural practices. Citrus has been in cultivation for thousands of years, so long that it is impossible to identify the wild ancestors of the cultivated varieties. It will not produce satisfactorily under conditions of neglect.

Citrus is intolerant of shading and will not produce well if crowded or shaded by jungle growth, or by taller trees. Most important of all, citrus has a high nutrient requirement, especially for nitrogen and minor elements. Dieback, and failure to fruit can be caused by deficiency of nitrogen, zinc, manganese, copper, iron or molybdenum. We have seen zinc deficiency everywhere, especially on oranges. Leaf symptoms of manganese and magnesium have been found. Copper deficiency is less easy to diagnose but a common name for it is "dieback". Much of the above has been pointed out by Mendel and others, but no one seems to have pointed out the importance of minor element deficiency. I am therefore recommending an adequate fertilizer program plus a nutritional spray of zinc, manganese, copper, boron and molybdenum. I have discussed the decline of the citrus plantings with Dr. Eddie Herath, Deputy Director, Horticulture in the Department of Agriculture. He lists causes, in addition to lack of fertilisers, to the following: 1. Phytophthora Canker Rot especially in wet years; 2. Pink disease; 3. Tristeza; 4. Soil erosion; 5. Conversion of roadside plantings to housing sites; 6. Movement of diseased materials; 7. Poor soil and 8. Water-logging.

Recommendations : Most recommendations have been incorporated into the "Citrus Notes" referred to above. These will not be repeated except to emphasise certain points. Orange trees are budded in most parts of the world. These are many points in favour of budded trees. Nevertheless, I have recommended a majority of seedling trees for the initial plantings because of the difficulty of persuading the village cultivators to apply any care. Nevertheless interested villagers should be supplied with budded trees, because they come into bearing earlier and bear more fruit than seedlings. Limes, on the other hand do well as seedlings, and are grown as seedlings throughout the tropics. Limes are directly susceptible to *tristeza* even as seedlings. The Monaragala lime has been reported to be tolerant of *tristeza* and my observation confirm this. No other lime should be planted, except in small lots for comparison. The supply of seed is a present problem. Some lime seed has been obtained by purchasing fruit, but it has been necessary to obtain seed from canneries.

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This is very unsatisfactory. In the future, fruit for seed should be picked from well grown, disease-free, true to type, productive trees.

Orange seed is not presently obtainable so I have recommended that it be imported, along with seed of selected rootstock varieties. It is proposed to grow 100,000 nursery plants, 75 percent limes and 25 percent oranges. I have recommended growing 15,000 seedling oranges, 8,000 budded oranges and 2,000 Ponkan Mandarins. The recommended root-stocks are rough lemon, Ranpur lime, and a small number budded on sweet orange seedlings for comparison. Nearly twice as many seeds must be planted as it is intended to produce trees, so all small, off type, or bench rooted plants can be discarded. We have ordered about 12,000 rough lemon seeds, 7,000 Rangpur lime, and 20,000 Sweet orange. Most of the latter will be grown as seedling trees. We also ordered 500 Mexican lime for virus indexing, and for comparison with the local limes. We also ordered 500 Ponkan to be grown as seedlings. I recommend the following buds be ordered from a reliable certified source, when the seedlings are approaching buddable size: Orinda Valencia Orange 6,000; Pineapple orange 2,000; Ponkan Mandarin 2,000; Rough lemon 100; Rangpur lime. 100 The last two are to establish a rootstock orchard for seed production. Wilits and Newcomb, Inc. of California is the principal supplier of certified disease free citrus budwood, worldwide. The only other source I would trust are the University of California at Riverside, and Drs. Vogel and Blondel on Corsica.

To be continued.

CUBA

Egg Production

By Felix Capote Andreu

The egg production is one of the lines of the economy in which Cuba has reached a high level during the last two decades. It was recently announced that the egg production of the country, in only eleven months, surpassed the production of eggs of last year, reaching the amount of two thousand 167 million eggs. In 1980, Cuba for the first time surpassed the number of two thousand million units in a year, in this way fulfilling the drawn plan of reaching the amount of two thousand three hundred million eggs per year for 1985. The development of this Cuban economy, which in 1958 only reached the 480 million eggs (330 million from the state sector and 150 million from the private one) is evidenced while checking the datums of growth in the state production during the last 20 years. From 911 million units in 1965 already in 1979 were reached one thousand seven hundred and

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six million, to reach in 1980 2026 million eggs. The production reached during the first 11 months of the year of 2167 million, allows us to consider as almost sure, the fulfilment of the goal, established for the end of the present five-year plan 2,300 million per year. Another fact which proves the progress obtained by the Cubans in poultry production is that the productivity of the hens which reached the average of 180 eggs each, per year, grew to 240 in 1980.—
—Granma.

WONDER BEAN

Jojoba

OIL-RICH JOJOBA (pronounced ho-ho-ba) a wild desert shrub native to the Sonoran Desert areas of southern California, Arizona, and northern Mexico, is now taking its place as one of the important agricultural plants of such hot dry regions of the globe. Noel Vietmeyer, a New Zealander living in the United States and professional associate of the US National Academy of Science was one of the first scientists to point out jojoba's potential. He says "jojoba oil can be transformed into an amazing array of products: motor oil that may need changing only every 32,000 km. rich creams that smooth and stabilise expensive cosmetics and sparkling waves so hard that you cannot score them with a thumbnail." In addition chemists have found how to hydrolyse, isomerise sulphurise and chlorinate the oil into a plethora of ingredients for plastics textiles adhesives and much more. The San Carlos Apache Indians of Arizona began a jojoba enterprise in 1972 under the supervision of officials from the University of Arizona. By 1977 the tribe had opened a seed-processing plant and a candle factory. More than 500 members of the tribe now harvest and render the hard seeds. They are run through the specially built press for the extraction of oil. In 1978 some 20 tonnes of oil were extracted from about 50 tonnes of beans produced by the Indians. For centuries the Indians of the Southwest have used the pure oil of the jojoba nut as food softening agent for leather, preservative and cosmetic. It is only the last six or seven years that scientists have discovered the value of the oil produced by the peanut-size seed it contains a 40 to 60 percent high-quality, heat-tolerant liquid wax with properties of sperm whale oil it could replace rare whale oil and serve as a high-pressure lubricant in American industry if it could be delivered at a competitive cost. Its potential is limitless as shown by the number of companies experimenting with the products.

Japanese companies, such as Koei Perfumery of Tokyo are taking a great deal of interest in the plant. The demand has caused the price to rise to such levels that Dr. Thomas Miwa, a researcher at the Department of Agriculture calls it "liquid gold". Buyers in the

Southwest are paying from \$ 4 to 6 \$ a pound for Jojoba seeds and from \$ 40 to \$ 60 per gallon (4.5 litres) for unrefined oil. In Sonora, where production of the plant is ahead of the United States at least three years there are 1,000 acres of jojoba under commercial production and substantial amounts of seeds are being harvested from wild plants. Kenneth Foster of the University of Arizona Office of Arid Land Studies, who is working to develop new markets for jojoba says research is still needed to find the best soils, genetic strains, and climatic conditions for jojoba as well as precautions against frost. A number of cosmetic manufactureres are using these jojoba products. Jojoba has made a spectacular debut it could have a future in developing countries in arid regions of the world.

TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

SPOTLIGHT

Disturbing Trends

A news report from Addis Ababa stated that fifteen African Commonwealth countries have decided to boycott the Commonwealth games to be held in the Australian city of Brisbane in September this year unless the New Zealand is barred from taking part in them. These fifteen African countries have adopted a joint position on this question during a conference of foreign ministers of these countries, held shortly after the 28th session of the ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity. They stated in a special resolution that the presence at the Commonwealth games of the team of New Zealand which maintains sports relations with the fascist South African regime, leaves no choice for the African countries. The trip of South African Rugby players to New Zealand last year, the resolution says, was a gross violation of the agreement banning sports ties between commonwealth countries and the Pretoria regime. **The British authority in charge of Test Cricket has wisely barred the 12 (or is it 15?) "rebel" English cricketers touring South Africa from playing in English Test Cricket for three years. This decision will enable India and Pakistan to send teams to Britain this summer to participate in the Test matches they were scheduled to play against Britain.**

While South African apartheid was raising problems that threaten to inhibit Test Cricket, difficulties of another kind have arisen in East Asia which threaten to also have far reaching consequences on international sports. China in a cable to the International Softball Federation (ISF), has demanded that the ISF declare null and void the invitation to the fifth women's world softball championship issued by the "Chinese Taipei Softball Association" and charged Mr. Don Porter the American Secretary-General of the Federation, with playing another political trick. Reporting this new development which has further complicated an delicate situation, the official Xinhua news agency has pointed out that in the "invitation telex sent to the Chinese Softball Association by the Chinese Taipei Softball Association from Los Angeles on March 13 the venue of the Championship was called 'Taipei, Taiwan, the Republic of China'. The following day Mr. Porter had cabled the Chinese Softball Association to the effect that the term "Republic of China" had been an inadvertence and should be "disregarded".

However, this is obviously another political trick deliberately played by the American secretary-general, Xinhua said pointing out that according to western wire service reports the invitation telex had been sent after leading members of the Chinese Taipei Softball Association had consulted the ISF headquarters in the US. "It was not an inadvertence but a carefully worked out political plot", the Xinhua report charged adding that anyone who upholds justice and cherishes the honour of the ISF "cannot disregard the matter". The Chinese Softball Association, in its cable to Mr. Porter has strongly protested against the "open attempt to create two Chinas" and demanded that the ISF immediately declare the invitation null and void. The protest by the Chinese Association whose full text was published by Xinhua cited the full text of the message sent by Mr. Porter to Mr. Wei Ming, president of the Chinese Softball Association. Mr. Porter's message reads: "To all ISI-member associations/federations: regards telex invitation for world championship from Chinese Taipei Softball Association that mentioned "Republic of China" in telex this was inadvertently included by organising committee and should be disregarded."

Even the Japanese Softball Association (JSA) has taken a serious view of ISF American President's attempt to give a new status in international Sports to Taiwan contrary to earlier decisions. The Japanese Softball Association said it was unacceptable that the International Softball Federation recognized the "flag" and "anthem" of Taiwan which was contrary to the resolution of the International Olympic Committee in regard to the representation of China in the Sports Organisation, the Japanese Kyodo News Agency reported. However, the Kyodo report said that JSA would decide whether to attend the Fifth World Women's Softball Championship only after scrupulously studying the major matters about the

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Games. Peking will not tolerate any attempt to equate Taiwan with the People's Republic of China. In an official communique published in "Sports News", after setting out the details of the "incident"—now well-known to Sports enthusiasts—China strongly condemned the leadership of the ISF for their political plot to create "two Chinas" on the occasion of the Fifth World Women's Softball Championship. Mr. Porter has now tried to gracefully get out of the difficulties he has created for himself but if he does not satisfy China's demands the Softball rumpus now can easily spread into other fields of sports and can cause a major disruption in international sports.

SPORTS CHRONICLE

Allrounder.

March 19-25

FRIDAY, MARCH 19: In *School Cricket* it is the 48th "Battle of the Saints" between St. Joseph's and St. Peter's at the P. Saravanamuttu Stadium today and tomorrow and the Josephians have the edge with their stronger batting line up. St. Joseph's have replaced two senior players—batsman Rohitha Perera and spinner Rajmumar Sabnayagam with two "freshers". They are Terrence Fernando who scored a century in the "Mini battle" and right arm leg spinner Brian Rajadurai. This week-end features Seven Big Matches in the card of 19 matches. Maris Stella go favourites in the fourth Battle of the Legoons with Holy Cross Kalutara on the Maris Stella grounds at Negombo today and tomorrow. All rounder Graeme Labrooy who toured England with the Sri Lanka under 19 Schools team last year leads Maris Stella. He will open the attack with Primal Leitan with Sumith Dalpathado and Janaka Baddevitaha as the spinners. The batting will be centred round Dilan Fernando, wicket-keeper Krishan Samarantunge, Lalantha Fernando and Rohan Fernando. The 77th Richmond-Mahinda Big Batch, The Battle of the South begins on the Galle esplanade at 10 a.m. today. In the series Mahinda has won 22 and Richmond 20 with the rest drawn. Naresh Ratwatte's centry failed to clinch victory for State Plantations Corporation over JEDB in their *annual cricket encounter* with the JEDP played recently. JEDB scored 247 and State Plantations Corporation 227. *The Second Cricket Test* between *Pakistan* and *Sri Lanka* is poised for an exciting finish at Faisalabad tomorrow. By the end of the fourth day, Sri Lanka were 127 eight wickets at the close in their second innings an overall lead of 311. Sri Lanka will have to declare immediately on the final day if they are to win square the Three-Match Series One All. Former Indian Cricket Test Captain, Bishen Bedi, has taken out a series of Writs against the Tasmanian Cricket Club of Latrobe District. *Javed Miandad*, Pakistan Cricket Captain at the centre of a row which has devided the country's Test side, said today he would not be available to lead

the team in England later this year. Pakistan beat Bangladesh 9 - 0 on the 6th day of the Seven-nation First *Asia Cup Hockey Tournament* at Karachi today. Pakistan led 6-0 at half time.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20: In *School Cricket* St. Thomas are determined to break Royal's stranglehold on the Mustang Trophy when they meet for the eighth time in the limited-over series at the SSC grounds at 10 a.m. today. Spirited batting saw St. Joseph's in a comfortable position at the end of the first day of the 48th Battle of the Saints against St. Peter's at the P. Saravanamuttu Stadium yesterday. Richmond made a bold 64 for one in reply to Mahinda's 171 all out at close of play in their Big Match yesterday on the Galle esplanade. The match will be continued at 10 a.m. today. In a fascinating final day's play Pakistan held out to force a draw in the *Second Cricket Test* against Sri Lanka in Faisalabad today. Set to score 339 runs for victory in over five hours, Pakistan escaped with the draw at 186 for 7. Pakistan easily upheld its supremacy in *World Hockey* by thrashing India 4-0 to win the *first Asia Hockey Cup Tournament* today at Karachi. World Cup champion Pakistan today earned an easy 4-0 win over Olympic champion India in their last league encounter of the Asia Cup hockey tournament and lifted the cup at the Hockey Club of Pakistan Stadium. Seven senior *Pakistani cricketers* have said they were ready to rejoin the Test side and the row over the team's captaincy. *Sri Lanka* failed by just three wickets today to win its first cricket Test match, managing only a draw against Pakistan at the end of the fifth and final day of the second test.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21: In *School Cricket* the 48th Josephian-Peterite encounter dragged to the inevitable draw at the Saravanamuttu Stadium yesterday. The Josephians who were set to make 152 to win in 20 mandatory overs, were 53 for 2 wickets, when bad light stopped play in the 8th mandatory over. St. Joseph's 66 for 1st innings 152 for 9 dec. The Trinity-Antonian match ended in a tame draw at Katugastota yesterday. Set to make 241 to win in 92 minutes plus the 20 mandatory overs, Trinity finally made 161 for 7 wickets at close of play. A high sense of sportsmanship prevailed in this game and the high point came in the Trinity second innings when when Jeremy Muthumani walked out after the umpire gave him not out, when Antonian Gunewardene took the catch off Pradeep Fernando's bowling. St. Antony's made 265 for 8 declared and 143 for 4 wickets declared while Trinity declared their first innibns at 165 for 5 wickets and in their second innings made 161 for 7 wickets at close of play. An unbeaten century by skipper Nihal Fonseka highlighted their big match against Mahinda, which was drawn at Galle yesterday. Ajit Cooray with a fine knock of 99 and Samson de Mel 35 who put on 142 runs for the seventh wicket saved the

match for St. Sebastians in the 32nd battle of Golds which ended in a draw at the Tyrone Fernando stadium yesterday; the match was stopped 10 minutes before the scheduled close of play owing to bad light. A fine unbeaten century by D. Pathirana for Holy Cross highlighted their drawn big match against Maris Stella at Negombo yesterday. St. Sylvester's College, Kandy will take on their Old Boys in their annual home and hime cricket match which will be played at Police grounds, Kandy today at 9.30 a.m. The present boys will be captained by Anura Halangoda while the Old Boys by Malcolm Perera. A fine knock of 135 by P. Prahalathan for Jaffna Central got his name into the record books of the Battle of the North between Jaffna Central and St. John's yesterday on the Jaffna Central grounds. The match ended in a draw. In *Club Cricket* Tamil Union who were 147 for 5 overnight were all out for 294 with a lead of 82 runs over the SSC in the first innings in their P. Sara Trophy final round cricket match continued at Mount Lavinia yesterday. Lakshman Aloysius top scored for Tamils with 74 while Saliya Ahangama captured 7 wickets for 119 for SSC. Bloomfield who were 77 for 2 overnight surpassed the Nomads score of 197 in the fourth wicket and all out for 247 having a first innings lead of 67 runs. R. Bhalekar top scored with 96 runs. S. Kalupperuma made a valuable contribution of 78 runs. Nomads 197 and 52 for 3 at close: Bloomfield 257. Saracens who were able to collect only 167 runs in their first innings in reply to Moratuwa SC first innings score of 254 fought to be evenly positioned having taken six Moratuwa wickets for only 51 runs in the 2nd innings, in the final round P. Sara Trophy cricket match continued at Rifle Green yesterday. Moratuwa 254: Saracens 167. Haroon Musafar and Shammi Silva bowled CCC back into the game by claiming nine Air Force wickets after the Air Force took a first innings lead. Continuing from the overnight score of 72 for 4 CCC were all out for 176, Nirmal Hettiarachi scoring 76 and Musafar unbeaten on 52. Air force, 226, 208 for 9: CCC 72 for 4 overnight 176 all out. NCC were wellplaced at the end of the second days play in their match against the Police Police 209 for 5 overnight 270 all out: NCC 203 for 3 at close. *Rebel English cricketers* touring South Africa refused to comment today on their three year ban from Test cricket, but their South African manager said he was surprised by its severity. The unofficial English XI were all out for 223 in their first innings on the second day of the second four day cricket match against South Africa today at Cape Town. A representative of the *Rugby Union* of Sri Lanka, as well as two representatives from the Rugby Union of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and a "factfinding" mission of five New Zealanders will attend the Annual General Meeting of the South African Rugby Board in Cape Town today.

MONDAY, MARCH 22: In *School Cricket* only 80 minutes of play was possible in the cricket match

between Zahira and Sri Sumangala, Panadura which ended in a draw at Maradana yesterday. Zhaira 180; Sri Sumanagala 123. In *Club Cricket* defending Champions Bloomfields regained top position in the Sara Trophy Final Round Table when they beat Nomads on the first innings. There was no play on the final day of the match yesterday because of rain. In the SSC vs Tamil Union at S. Thomas' grounds Mr. Lavinia, only one hour's play was possible and play had to be called off due to bad light and rain. SSC 121 and 259 for 5 dec. Tamil Union 294 and 44 for 1. Moratuwa SC gained first innings points against Saracens at Rifle Green. Moratuwa SC 254 and 135 and Saracens 167 and 32 for 1 at stumps. Not a ball was bowled at Vihara Maha Devei Park where Bloomfield took first innings points from Nomads. Nomads 197 and 52 for 3: Bloomfield 257. *Sri Lanka* can look forward with confidence to the *third and Final Cricket Test* against Pakistan which starts today at Lahore. After two heavy defeats in 1950 and 1966, Sri Lanka put up a great performance in 1975 to hold a powerful Pakistan side to a draw. A senior Indian cricket official today welcomed the *Test* ban imposed on *rebel English players* touring South Africa and said India's cricket tour of England would now go ahead. There were angry exchanges in Yorkshire yesterday over the Test and Country Cricket Board's decision to ban cricketers who went to South Africa from playing India and Pakistan during their tour of England this summer. *Australia* is set to square the Test Series with New Zealand after enforcing the follow on the third day of the Third Cricket Test at Lancaster Park today.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23: In *School Cricket* St. Thomas Matara were 81 for 4 at close of play in reply to St. Thomas Matale's first innings total of 175 in their cricket match played at the Uyanwatte Stadium yesterday. The *Mercantile Inter-Club Knockout Table Tennis Tournemanet* commences today at the Sports Ministry tables with the Men's C division matches at 5 p.m. Rambjers BC beat Colombo Cagers by 60 points to 41 to enter the Final of the Charles Jansz Challenge Trophy *Women's Basketball Tournament* yesterday at the Depot Police courts. Ananda College made *Chess* history when they became the first school to win the Inter-Club Championship beating four other teams—Mount Lavinia Club, Royal, Jaffna Club and Philidor Chess and Mucis Society at the Royal Colege Hall yesterday. Roy Dias hit a magnificent undefeated century, the second by a Sri Lanka in Test Cricket, on the opening day of the *Third and Final Cricket Test* against Pakistan at Lahore today. The new President of the *Chess Federation* of Sri Lanka, Mr. R. Bodinagoda, thanked the representatives at the Federation's Annual General Meeting for unanimously placing their confidence in him. Mr. Bodinagoda said that the West German Embassy has presented forty Chess Clocks to the Federation and had promised twenty more.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24: In *School Cricket* the encounter between St. Thomas Matara and St. Thomas Matale ended in a tame draw at the Uyanwatte Stadium yesterday. The Matale Thomians scored 175 and 110 for 6 at stumps to which their Matara nuterparts replied with 205. The 20th "Battle of Matugama" between Ananda Sastralaya and St. Mary's will be played on Friday and Saturday play commencing at 10 a.m. on both days at the Public Grounds, Matugama. In this series St. Marys have won 6, Ananda Sastralaya twowith the rest drawn. The fourth annual Staff Cricket match between Ananda and Nalanda will be played today at Campbell Place at 10 a.m. Of the three previous matches in the series, Nalanda have won two and Ahanda one. Dharmasoka go out favourites when the meet Devananda MV in the 17th Battle of Ambalangoda on Saturday and Sunday. Another Big Match has been revived after 12 years at Kegalle St. Mary's vs Kegalu Vidyalaya. This match will be played at the Public grounds on Friday and Saturday play commencing at 10 a.m. on both days. Pakistan fast bowler Imran Khan shattered Sri Lanka with a career best burst of 8 wickets for 58 and placed his country in a strong position in the *Third and Final Cricket Test* at Lahore today

The second fourday cricket match between an unofficial English XI and a *South African* team ended in a draw today with the tourists taking the opportunity to get some much-needed batting practice on an easy pitch. *Graham Gooch* captain of the unofficial English XI now touring South Africa has signed a 6,000 sterling contract to play for Western Province in the next South African season, Western Province announced today. The Inter-Firm Mercantile Knockout Table Tennis Tournament scheduled to commence yesterday at the Sports Ministry tables has been indefinitely postponed due to restriction in power consumption.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25: In *School Cricket* Ananda College will field an inexperienced young side in their 53rd Battle of the Maroons cricket encounter against Nalanda starting on Saturday at the Sara Stadium. The Divisional and Individual award winners of the Mercantile Cricket Association's 1981-82 cricket tournament will receive their prizes at the MAC's annual prize distribution with takes place on Friday at the Club House at Wijerama Mawatha. For the second consecutive year, the old and present boys of D. S. Senanayake College will meet in their annual rugby fixture tomorrow at the CR and FC grounds at 4 p.m. Twenty seven women golfers from nine countries being a three-day tussle at 8 a.m. today at Nuwara Eliya in the *Fourth Asian Women's Amateur Team Championships* for the Queen Sirikit Challenge Cup which Australia won last year in Japan. Rain washed out play without a ball being bowled on the Third day of the Third Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. *The Test* resumes tomorrow with Pakistan 168 for 1 in reply to Sri Lanka's first innings total of 240.

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CORRECTION

Sir,

In your issue, 13/3/1982 *Sports Chronicle* for Sunday February 28 "Holy Cross College Kalutara created a ground record for Kalutara Esplanade when they hit 311 for 8 wickets declared in their match against Wadduwa MMV". Could I make a correction? *Ground Record for Total*—432 for 9 (dec) by Kalutara Lawyers vs. Galle Lawyers in 1908. *For Individual Score*—M. K. Albert 265 for Kalutara Town Club vs Excise Dept. in 1921 (Kalutara TC 405 for 4 (dec.) In 1908 T. W. Roberts scored 241 not out for Kalutara Lawyers.

11 Clifford Avenue,
Colombo 3.
21.3.82.

S. S. Perera.

Power.....Cattle

IS IT NOT A FACT that this column was wrong in its story entitled GAS TURBINE TENDER in the issue of *Tribune* of March 12 (Vol. 26 No. 26) ? That a reader on the inside of such matters has informed us that it was not gas turbines this time but Diesel Generating Power Plants of 80 megawatts each ? That we regret the error ? That the other particulars we mentioned and the queries we raised are all relevant and correct ? That it has been stressed by readers who claim to know "what is really happening" that the French connection "is still very much there" ? That all that we are interested in ensuring that this country gets a square deal in its purchases through tender procedures ? That whether gas turbines or generating plants the public does not want any monkey business ?

IS IT NOT TRUE that there has been much talk in political and commercial circles for many months about the goings-on in the Fertilizer Corporation, especially about some of its tender deals ? That *Tribune* had raised a large number of questions about the Fertilizer Corporation in 1979 and 1980 ? That no action had been taken to investigate the allegations about tenders and other connected matters ? That everything had gone on as before and business went on as usual ? That we had thereupon turned to other fields of interests ? That apart from scandals about tenders, the Fertilizer Corporation has functioned most inefficiently ? That its officials, especially in provincial and district centres, conducted themselves in a way as if they didn't care whether the customers were served or satisfied ? That many storekeepers made fortunes when the prices were raised—and this had happened with unfailing regularity —by stealthily selling all stock at the old prices to traders after the price increases ? That questions had often been asked why the top management did not take an inventory of unsold stocks before announcing price increases ? That it is to be hoped that after the transfer of the Fertilizer Corporation to the care of the Presidential office, there would be radical changes not only in tender procedures but also in the actual system of distribution ?

IS IT NOT SURPRISING that 7,000 motor vehicles in Colombo District are still unlicensed ? That according to a report in the *Observer* of 19/3/82 the Department has now identified the numbers of these vehicles and circulated a list of the unlicensed vehicles to all police stations in Colombo ? That unless the checking was on an island-wide basis the exercise would be futile ? That according to the *Observer* the police would "intensify" the checking of vehicles from April onwards ? That judging by the way licence checking campaigns

have been conducted in the past, April First would be an appropriate day to make a start ? That if bureaucrats are unable to devise a fool-proof system to ensure licensing of all vehicles every year why cannot a firm of private management consultants be hired to devise one ?

IS IT NOT SURPRISING that the cinema industry is today in the throes of a crisis ? That the challenge of the video-cassettes and the TV has brought all the dormant grievances to the surface ? That Sinhala film producers have made representations to the President and an investigation has been ordered ? That many exhibitors are threatening to close down before they are driven to bankruptcy ? That serious allegations have been made that the majority of Tamil films brought were box failures in South India ? That there was some hankey-panky in this because it was difficult to understand why such pictures should be chosen ? That it is said that Sri Lanka's NFC was subsidising the bad and inefficient producers in South India ? That this is a matter the Chairman of the NFC must look into and take remedial measures ?

ARE THE WHISPERS that the veterinarians are seeking to take over the co-operative (Milk) Producers Unions true ? That veterinarians are an ambitious group and have always regarded animal husbandrymen as a lesser breed of men ? That over the years veterinarians have won all along the line and had even succeeded in being placed in administrative charge of government cattle farms ? That the dismal failure that overtook these farms with veterinarians in charge (and animal husbandrymen playing the role of minor functionaries) is a matter of record and history ? That veterinarians want to be bosses in regard to everything connected with livestock ? That to everybody's knowledge the powerful veterinarian lobby wants only qualified veterinarians to be in charge even of Producers (Milk) Co-operatives ? That down the grapevine comes the story that some veterinarians have lodged protests that cooperatives do not come within purview of their services ? That if the livestock and dairy industry in Sri Lanka is to develop, it is time that government makes correct policy decisions as to who should do what ? That veterinarians cannot do everything particularly general administration and management of farms and run producers cooperatives ? —whilst the veterinary Service itself languishes ?



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