

# CEYLON *Today*

**Ceylon at the Commonwealth Premiers' Conference**

**The Open Prison Camp at Pallakelle**

V. N. PILLAI

**Peacemaker from Ceylon at the United Nations**

**The Mineral Sands Corporation, Pulmodai**

ESME RANKINE

**The Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme**

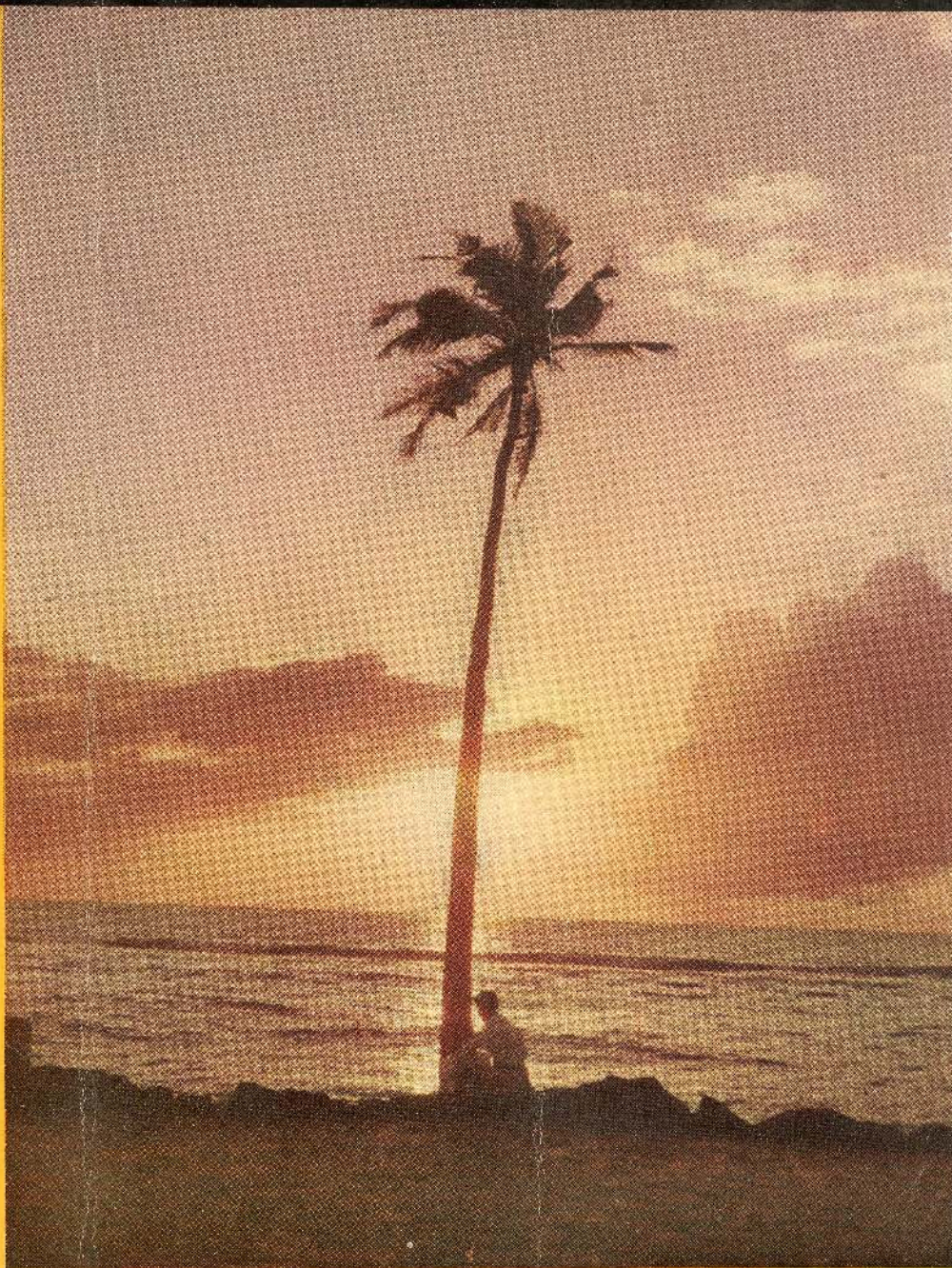
W. P. H. DIAS

**Hill Country Dances and Present Trends**

JAMES GOONEWARDENE

**Foreign Affairs**

*Coastal Scene, Ceylon*



**JUNE, 1960**





# CEYLON

Today

PUBLISHED BY THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

June, 1960

Vol. IX No. 6

*All editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Assistant Director of Information, Information Department, Senate Building, Colombo 1*

## Ceylon at the Commonwealth Premiers' Conference

CEYLON was represented by Senator Edmund J. Cooray, Minister of Justice, at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference held in London from May 3-13, 1960. The Ceylon Premier, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, was unable to attend the Conference and he nominated Senator Cooray to take his place.

Senator Cooray, who arrived in London on Friday, April 29, was met at the airport by Mr. C. J. M. Alport, Minister for Commonwealth Relations; by Col. Hugo; and by the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner for Ceylon in the U. K. Shortly after his arrival, he held a press interview, and spent the week-end from Saturday, April 30, to Sunday, May 1, at Chequers as the guest of the British Premier, Mr. Harold Macmillan. On the evening of Monday, May 2, Senator Cooray attended a dinner party held at Windsor Castle, in honour of the Commonwealth Premiers, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

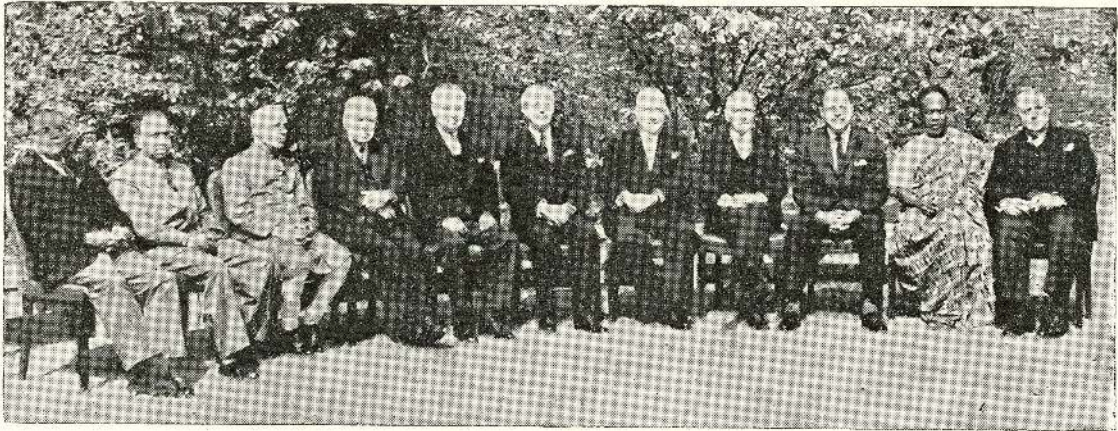
On Wednesday, May 4, Ceylon's Minister of Justice attended a dinner party given by the British Premier, and later a reception and dance at Buckingham Palace in honour of H. R. H. Princess Margaret. On May 6,

Senator Cooray was present at the wedding of Princess Margaret to Mr. Anthony Armstrong-Jones. (Senator Cooray carried a gift from Ceylon to Princess Margaret—a moonstone tray in sterling silver, carved in the traditional Kandyan art style with a motif of lions and elephants.)

Besides attending the sessions of the Commonwealth Premiers' Conference, Senator Cooray's other engagements in London included a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on May 9; an Audience with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on May 10; luncheon with the Lord Chancellor and Lord Home at the House of Lords on the same afternoon; luncheon with the British Premier and Lady Macmillan on May 11 at 10, Downing Street; luncheon by Field Marshal Ayub Khan of Pakistan on May 12; a British Council luncheon on May 13; luncheon with the Director-General of the Royal Overseas League on May 14; and luncheon with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association on May 17.

Senator Cooray spent the afternoon of May 14, and May 15, at Dorneywood, Lord Home's country residence. On Monday, May 16, he sat in Appeal Court No. 1 with Lords Evershed, Devlin and Ormerod, and later





In the Garden of No. 10, Downing Street, before the conference. L. to R. : Tunku Abdul Rahman (Malaya) ; Senator Cooray (Ceylon Minister of Justice) ; Mr. Nehru (India) ; Mr. Walter Nash (N. Zealand) ; Mr. J. Diefenbaker (Canada) ; Mr. Harold Macmillan (Great Britain) ; Mr. R. G. Menzies (Australia) ; Mr. E. H. Louw (S. Africa, Min. for External Affairs) ; Field Marshal Ayub Khan (Pakistan) ; Dr. Nkrumah (Ghana) ; and Sir Roy Welensky (Central Africa Federation).

lunched with the Master of the Rolls at Lincoln's Inn. The High Commissioner for Ceylon in the U. K., Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, and Mrs. de Soyza, held a garden party to meet Senator Cooray and his wife, on the evening of May 16, at 21, Addison Road, London W.14.

### B. B. C. Interview

IN a BBC interview on May 9, Senator Cooray (answering a question how he would assess the value of these Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meetings) said that the main value of these meetings was that they gave an opportunity to the representatives of the various governments in the Commonwealth to come to know one another, and to exchange views and ideas on various subjects of common interest to the Commonwealth. Senator Cooray thought that, though they did not pass resolutions or take binding decisions, the purely informal discussions that they had were of great value, because they came to understand each other's problems and to explore ways in which one Commonwealth country could help the other. They discussed the aid given under the Colombo Plan to various countries, and their

general attitude as members of the Commonwealth to world problems. He thought such meetings served a very useful purpose.

Asked by the BBC interviewer, George Scott, about Ceylon's own attitude towards apartheid, Senator Cooray said that, so far as Ceylon was concerned, their attitude to this question had been stated quite clearly in the Ceylon Parliament. Almost a month ago, when the matter first arose, the Ceylon Premier, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, had pointed out that they in Ceylon were completely opposed to any form of racial superiority or racial discrimination, and that they deplored the situation that had arisen in South Africa. They hoped it would soon be possible to arrive at some solution, because it was a very serious matter from the point of view of not only South Africa but also the rest of the Commonwealth, particularly the Afro-Asian members of the Commonwealth who were greatly disturbed by the present events in South Africa.

Asked what steps Ceylon as a country would take, what steps he would recommend the Commonwealth taking, if South Africa were not to amend her policies in any way, Senator Cooray said that so far as the other



Commonwealth countries were concerned, it was entirely a matter for each of them to decide. They could not expect the Conference as such to lay down the law on that point. But so far as Ceylon was concerned, it would be a matter for the Parliament of Ceylon to decide what steps, if any, should be taken. But they were, of course, not thinking so much of the question of imposing or passing sentence on anybody as of being able to convince South Africa that in her own interest, apart from anything else, and certainly in the interest of the Commonwealth, this problem had to be solved.

The matter had already been raised in the United Nations, and the United Nations had asked the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, to look into the matter and put up a report. It would therefore be the responsibility of the United Nations (of which they were all members, including South Africa), as the apex organisation of the Family of Nations, to decide what action should be taken.

Senator Cooray was next asked about the idea of a Commonwealth Court, which was one of the proposals Ceylon was putting

forward at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. Senator Cooray said that that was really one of the proposals which was being mooted by him. What really had happened was—apart from the general idea—they were up against a particular difficulty, namely that, at present, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was their final Court of Appeal. That had been so for over a century. All parties in Ceylon, or at any rate the major political parties, had agreed that Ceylon should become a Republic within the Commonwealth. Once that happened, the question of continuing to have the Judicial Committee as their final Court of Appeal would have to be solved. They could not go on sending their Appeals there, unless, of course, they made some special legal provision, as Malaya had done. So he was suggesting to the Prime Ministers' Conference that a feasible alternative would be to set up a Commonwealth Court to take over the Appellate work of the Judicial Committee so far as the Commonwealth countries were concerned.

The Judicial Committee would, of course, continue to hear appeals from the Colonies

Ceylon's Minister of Justice, Senator Edmund J. Cooray, holding a press interview shortly after his arrival in London







H. M. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh held a dinner party at Windsor Castle in honour of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers. Picture shows H. M. The Queen with the Prime Ministers at Windsor Castle. (Back Row—L. to R.) ; Tunku Abdul Rahman (Malaya) ; Sir Roy Welensky (Rhodesia and Nyasaland) ; Mr. Harold Macmillan ; Field Marshal Ayub Khan (President of Pakistan) ; and Dr. Nkrumah (Ghana). (Front Row—L. to R.) ; Mr. Edmund Cooray (Minister of Justice, Ceylon) ; Mr. Walter Nash (New Zealand) ; Mr. Nehru (India) ; H. M. The Queen ; Mr. Diefenbaker (Canada) ; Mr. Menzies (Australia) ; and Mr. Louw (Minister of External Affairs, South Africa).

and so on. That particular Court, as he envisaged it, would comprise Judges selected from the various territories of the Commonwealth from a panel of nominees consisting of distinguished legal men, who would sit as a Divisional Court in the capitals of the various Commonwealth countries and dispose of their cases on the spot. One of the arguments against sending overseas appeals to the Privy Council was that it was derogatory to the status of an independent country to have its appeals disposed of outside its own territory.

Asked if he would expect this Court to deal with international political issues arising between two members of the Commonwealth, Ceylon's Minister of Justice said that that again was a matter entirely for the members themselves to decide. Personally he thought

that would be quite a good idea, but nobody could force them to do that. For the present, all that would happen was that it would take over the work of the Judicial Committee so far as Commonwealth countries were concerned. If member states wished to avail themselves of the services of the Commonwealth Court to settle disputes *inter se*, that would entirely be their own affair.

Senator Cooray then went on to answer questions relating to matters in Ceylon. Asked how far the Government hoped to encourage foreign investment, Senator Cooray said that he quite appreciated any investor overseas wanting to satisfy himself that a country was politically stable before investing in it. That was precisely why he thought that what they wanted at the



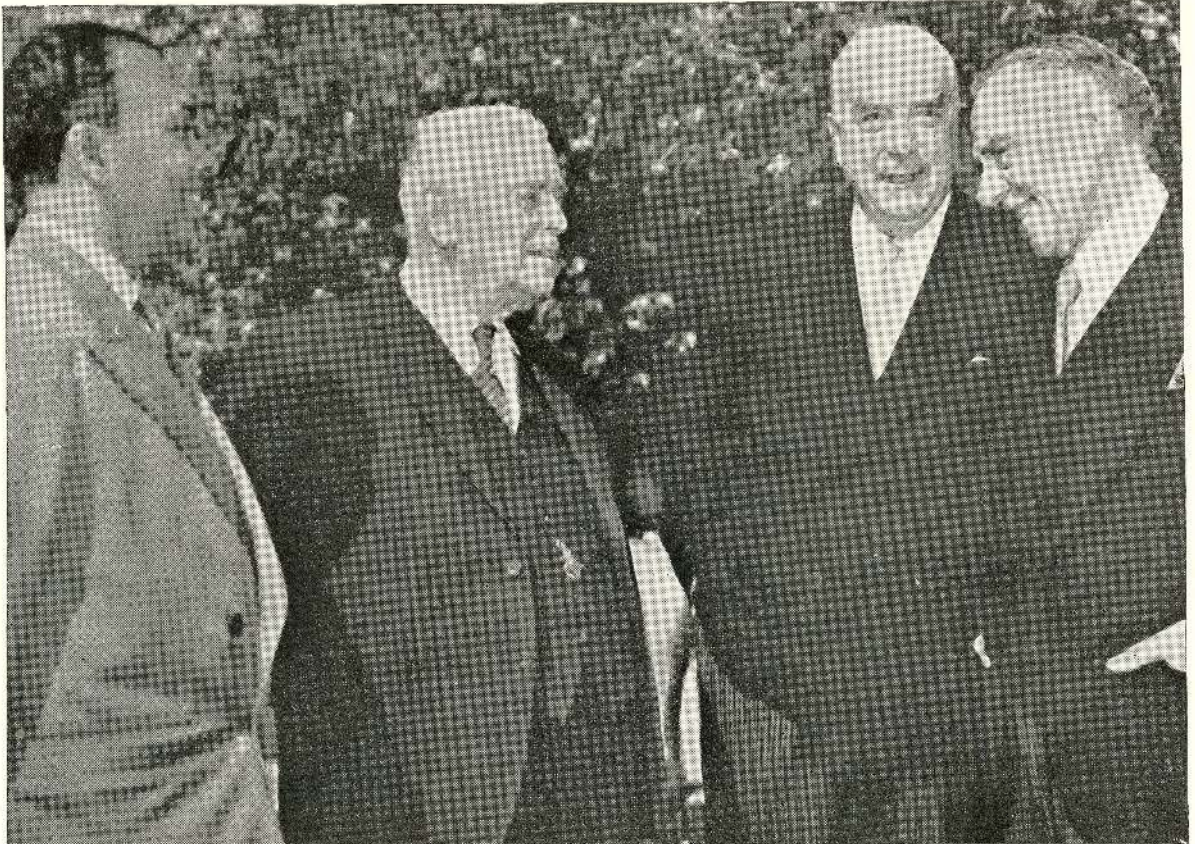
moment in Ceylon was strong, stable government, which could assure overseas investors that they could, with safety, invest their money, because Ceylon did want foreign capital. He explained that Ceylon was an under-developed country, and they wanted to diversify their economy by starting new industries, and for all these purposes they required capital.

Naturally, at the Commonwealth Conference itself, one of the most important topics that had been discussed was the question of economic aid to under-developed countries like Ceylon. They had received a considerable amount of aid from Commonwealth countries, particularly from Canada, New Zealand, and so on, and they were very grate-

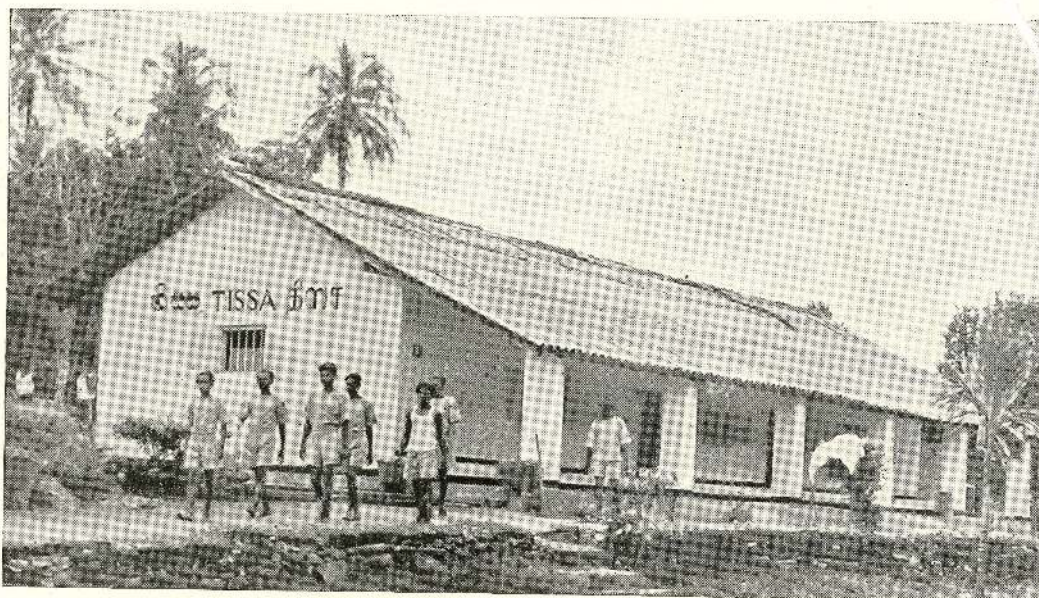
ful to them for it. But they did want more capital.

Asked about the Government's policy on nationalisation of tea estates, Senator Cooray said that they did not believe in nationalisation for the sake of nationalisation. At the same time, they did believe that certain services, particularly public utility services, should be publicly owned. The Ceylon Government's policy was that the private sector and the public sector were complementary to each other, and not in conflict. And, subject to certain safeguards and necessary limitations, they welcomed the private sector playing its part in the national economy.

Posing in the Garden at 10, Downing Street, London, shortly before the Opening Session of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference are (left to right) : Senator Edmund Cooray, Ceylon's Justice Minister, who represented Premier Senanayake ; New Zealand's Premier Walter Nash ; The Australian Premier Robert Gordon Menzies ; and Mr. Eric Louw, South African External Affairs Minister, who deputised for wounded Premier Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd







Leaving for work in the morning

## The Open Prison Camp at Pallakelle

V. N. PILLAI

*(Commissioner of Prisons)*

SOME significant contributions have been made to the treatment of offenders in Ceylon during the last 10 years. Such trends have been in keeping with advances in research and study in other parts of the world and in line with studies in the understanding of human behaviour which has received intensive attention in the recent past.

The purpose of imprisonment and detention in institutions for offenders is no longer considered to be punitive or merely deterrent. The reformation of the offender and his training to fit himself into normal society, so that he may be a useful citizen, is now considered to be the primary aim of penal policies in all parts of the world.

At one time, the method employed to deal with the offenders consisted simply of the

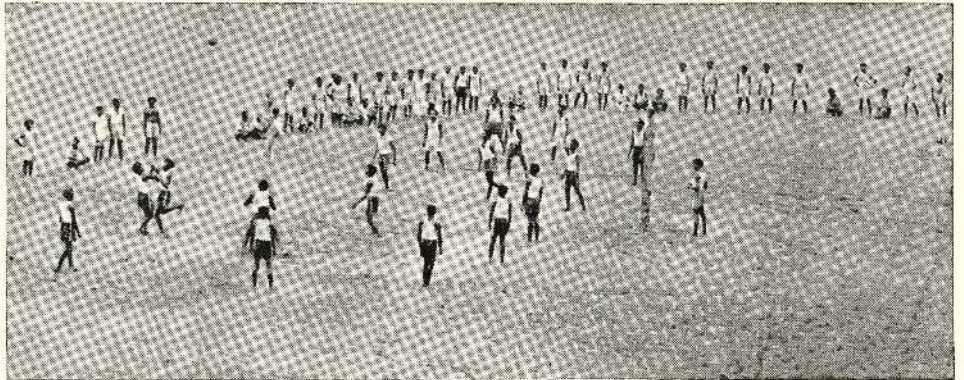
use of force. Persons convicted in courts and sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment or detention were treated as if they were lumps of hard metal yielding only to the hammer, and were with every good intention expected to be beaten to shape. More often than not this process tended to create internal injuries and the spirit of the men grew into the wrong shape, for often the use of force produces a reaction more anti-social than the original condition.

There was then a second phase which flourished for many years and which was, for some time, termed the method of pressure. The offender was treated as though he were a lump of putty or wax and an attempt was made to turn him out to a uniform shape by continuous pressure of authority from outside. In course of time some impression





▶ Living in small-cottage groups and working on plots of land allocated to each group



▶ Recreation—A volley ball match in progress

was made on him and, after years of constant adherence to rules and orders, most offenders who came under this system managed to retain the same shape when no longer subject to the pressure of those in authority. It is now well known that prisoners, who were

subjected to such pressures of authority from outside, when exposed to the different influences of free life, assumed quite different shapes.

In the third stage of development it has been realised that the task of reformation is



not merely to break or mould a person into shape, but to stimulate powers within him, so that he would prefer the good and the clean to the bad and the unclean, and try to produce within himself a change in character. Such a pattern of treatment and training requires every offender to be dealt with as an individual, who should be known both from outside and inside and who should be given sympathy and understanding so that he will acquire the ability to withstand the pressures of day to day life.

### Great Success

THE Open Prison which is based on the principle that it is impracticable to train men to freedom in a condition of captivity, is one that has been tried out in many countries with great success and which is now considered to be one of the most practical answers to problems of training and treatment of offenders, more especially in under-developed countries, where the scale of priorities for social welfare measures is low.

The open institution in a country like Ceylon had therefore to be not merely a replica of similar institutions in other parts of the world, but one that was suited to the economic and cultural background of the type of offenders in this country. The Open Prison Camp at Pallekelle has now been in existence for nearly 10 years. It was accepted that an institution of this type would be economical, and indicate a humanitarian approach to the problem of training the large number of offenders from rural areas who were overcrowding our penal institutions.

The institution was opened in 1951 when the first batch of prisoners came into occupation of the camp, about six miles from Kandy. One of the main principles that has been observed in the organisation of the camp is that all the work connected with it should be done entirely by the occupants with the guidance and instruction of the available prison staff. No special vote was at any time asked for the establishment of the camp. All

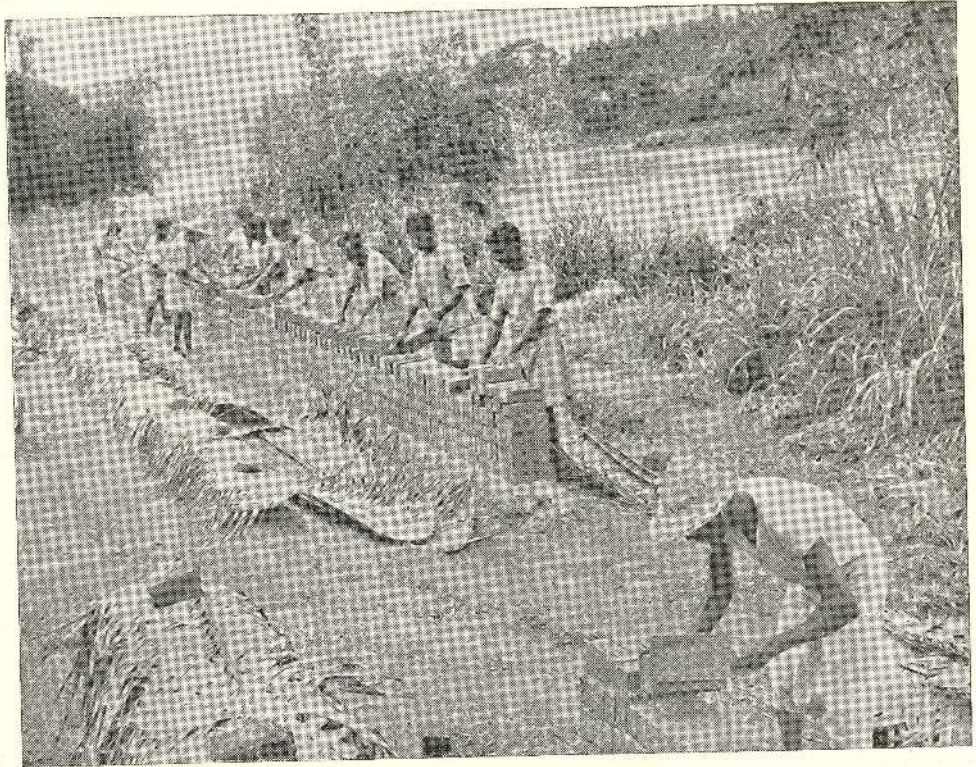


Rubber and cocoa cultivation

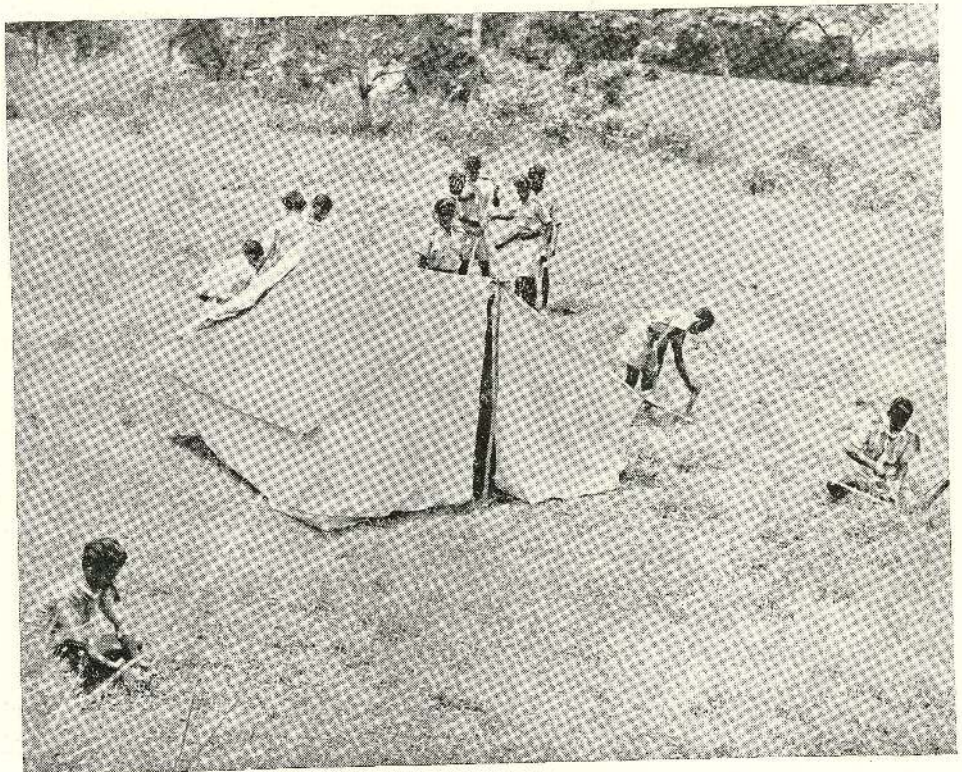
the buildings were erected by prison labour, first as temporary buildings, and gradually given a certain amount of permanency according to the funds available.

In the initial stages, all the prisoners were employed on clearing the land and erecting temporary buildings. Paddy and vegetable cultivation, poultry and cattle breeding were commenced soon afterwards. The men selected for this venture in the initial stages were duly impressed with the fact that trust and mutual understanding were the basic factors in making the institution a success, and that if these qualities were supplemented by hard work and good behaviour, the institution would be well on its way to success.





Brick-making ▶



▶ Scouting—Rover  
Crew pitching a tent  
for a week-end  
camp





Bathing in the Mahaveli after work

The programme of activities comprised, among others, physical training, adult education, outdoor and indoor games, cultural activities such as oriental music, Kandyan dancing and drama. The normal irksome prison routine restrictions were done away with, and life in the camp was approximated to rural life outside. There were no bars or locks, no lock-up and unlock procedures, no fences or barriers between the institution and the outside world. In the first year the institution had an average of about 50 prisoners. The numbers were gradually increased to about 200. The response to this type of training and treatment was surprisingly good.

### Rover Crew

ONE of the most significant features of the training was the introduction of a rural development community into the institution itself, modelled on similar community activities outside. Another feature was the introduction of a Rover Crew within the institution based on the activities of Rover Scouts outside. This Crew has been recognised by the Scout Association of Ceylon. A special camping ground has been built by prisoners which is used by all Scout and Rover Crews in the District. The Rural Development movement within the institution progressed to such an extent that the Rural Development Department was able to make use of this institution as a model to

be visited and studied by trainees. From its inception, an attempt was made to emphasise the need for using the institution for purposes of character training and training in community living rather than as a place for increasing agricultural production.

Another significant feature of the institution is the use made of voluntary agencies and the village communities in that area. A number of voluntary social service organisations made requests, and were permitted, to assist in the recreational, cultural and educational activities of the institution. When the institution started to function there was a certain amount of resentment from the local villagers that they would be burdened with a criminal community in their centre. In a few years, these fears were completely allayed. The villagers in the area are permitted to visit the institution and to take part in its activities on festive occasions. Today the institution is an integral part of the community in that area. The prisoners have built for themselves a Buddhist shrine and a Hindu temple. They are permitted to go on pilgrimages, educational tours and to worship at neighbouring temples.

Over a thousand prisoners, mostly persons who have been convicted of grave offences and who had to serve long terms of imprisonment, have passed through the institution since its inception. During all these years, only three men have attempted to escape



This is perhaps the lowest escape in the world for any type of institution! The inmates themselves have had the greatest regard for what it has meant to them; that is probably the reason why a number of them visiting it after their discharge, bring along even their families.

Another remarkable feature of the institution is that according to figures available, only four prisoners who have passed through

it have been convicted again. The measure of success of any rehabilitative programme is, in the ultimate, its effect on the human material that has benefited by its resources, and the greatest satisfaction to the authorities has been that, in some small way, this institution has, more than any other, contributed effectively to the difficult task of re-educating and re-fitting men to take their places in the society to which they once belonged.

### CANADA'S AID TO CEYLON FOR 1959-60 IS RUPEES TEN MILLION

THE Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, announced in the Canadian House of Commons on June 17th that Canada's Colombo Plan contribution for 1959-60 towards Ceylon's economic development would be \$ 2 million (Rs. 10 million approx.), states a Press release. This grant brings to more than \$ 16.4 million (Rs. 82 million approx.) the amount of Capital Aid provided to Ceylon by Canada under the Colombo Plan.

Mr. Green announced that agreement had been reached with the Ceylon Government on the following projects for the 1959-60 program :—

*Wheat Flour grant to help meet Ceylon's food requirements—\$ 1,000,000*

The sale of this flour by the Ceylon Government will generate rupee counterpart funds to be used in Ceylon for agreed development projects.

*Continuation of the Resources Survey of Ceylon—\$ 600,000*

In order to have a sound basis for planning and developing the country's economy, Ceylon asked Canada to undertake an aerial resources survey of the Island. The resources survey includes air photography, mosaicking, topographic mapping, geological and forestry surveys, land and water resources surveys, a

geophysical survey, integrated river basin surveys, training of Ceylonese personnel and the establishment of a centre for integrated resources surveys. This survey has been in progress since 1956 and the current allocation is for its continuation.

*Gal Oya-Laxapana Power Link—\$ 325,000*

An initial allocation towards the cost of constructing transmission lines and providing terminal equipment and generators for the power link between Inginiyagala in the Gal Oya Valley and Badulla in the amount of \$ 1,290,000 was made in the 1958-59 program. The allocation in this year's program is to meet further costs of the project.

*Ratmalana Telecommunications Project—\$ 75,000*

This allocation is to complete the provision of equipment and services to the project at Ratmalana which is designed to make Colombo airport facilities both safer and more efficient.

In addition, Canada will continue its program of technical co-operation in Ceylon including the provision of experts to work in Ceylon and the provision of training facilities in Canada as part of its overall Colombo Plan program for South and South-East Asia. Expenditures under the technical co-operation program for Ceylon amounted to \$ 1.45 million (Rs. 7.2 million approx.) up to the end of 1959.





Sir Claude Corea

## Peacemaker from Ceylon at the United Nations

WHEN the Security Council met in New York on the afternoon of May 23, 1960, to hear the Russian complaint of "aggression" by the United States, the chair was occupied by Sir Claude Corea, Ceylon's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Ceylon was elected a member of the Security Council last year, and Sir Claude was President, by rotation, for last month.

It is to Sir Claude's credit that the fact of his being president evoked a feeling of confidence among observers. The special correspondent of *The Times*, London, for instance, wrote:—

*"To all who know him, this is assurance enough that the debate, no matter how heated it may grow, will be conducted and*

*controlled with scrupulous fairness. Sir Claude may be relied upon to impose the same restraint on others as he habitually exercises himself".*

As Ceylon's most senior diplomatist, Sir Claude Corea has had a unique career, including two spells as Ceylon's High Commission in London, both before and after Ceylon became independent in 1948. He was the first Ceylonese Ambassador to the United States (1948-54) and, since 1958, has been Permanent Representative of Ceylon to the United Nations.

Sir Claude was Ceylon's delegate to the Suez Canal Conference held in November 1946, and his contribution on that occasion evoked a tribute from Mr. Dulles. In



er 1947, he was Ceylon's representative to the Havana Conference, where he was drafted, and he was appointed Chairman of GATT in 1957. In 1956, Sir Claude led a special Ceylon Government Mission to the USSR and China, in connection with the establishment of diplomatic missions in those two countries.

In 1958, Mr. Luns, of the Netherlands, who proposed Sir Claude as Chairman of the United Nations Administrative and Budgetary Committee said the Ceylon envoy held "an impressive list of high offices", and his "wide experience" would make him "an excellent chairman". The sentiments were endorsed by the seconder of the resolution, the Indian delegate, and it was carried.

### First Representative Abroad

SIR Claude was born at Chilaw, on the west coast of Ceylon, 66 years ago. He was educated at Wesley College, Colombo, and at the Ceylon Law College, Colombo, and began to practise as a lawyer in 1916. Fourteen years later, he forsook the Bar for politics, and soon became a leader in the national movement. He was thrice elected President of the Ceylon National Congress.

Elected to the State Council in 1931, he served twice as Minister for Home Affairs and later as Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce. He established the first State-aided commercial bank, which came to be known as the Bank of Ceylon, and also the Industrial and Commercial Credit Corporation.

In September 1946, i.e. two years before Ceylon achieved independence, Sir Claude was appointed Ceylon Government representative in London. He became the first High Commissioner in 1948, was posted to Washington in the same year. During his second spell as Ceylon High Commissioner in Ceylon, he was concurrently Minister for Ceylon to the Netherlands and to France.

Since then, he has emerged as an elder statesman of Ceylon. At the United Nations, where he has served with distinction as Chairman of the Fifth Committee, Sir Claude is known for his firm yet moderate utterances and his constructive attitude.

Sir Claude has also been an effective influence in the Afro-Asian group in the United Nations. Recently, when the Security Council was considering the South African policy of apartheid, he made a notable contribution to the debate, warning the countries concerned in unmistakable terms of the inherent danger of a policy of racialism.

### Security Council Speech

WE reproduce below the full text of the speech delivered by Sir Claude at the Security Council Meeting held on May 25, 1960, to inquire into the Soviet complaint against the United States of America on U-2 flights over the U. S. S. R. :—

"I should like, in my capacity as representative of my Government, to express its views on the issue before us, as briefly as I can.

"The issue, as stated by the representative of the Soviet Union, is important; and yet it is simple, and I would bring it up in the following quotation from the statement of the representative of the Soviet Union: ". . . the question of aggressive acts by the Air Force of the United States of America against the Soviet Union, creating a threat to universal peace".

"The principal fact on which this issue is based is the flight of United States U-2 aircraft over the territory of the Soviet Union on 1st May, of this year. This fact is not disputed. Neither is it now disputed that the flight of the aircraft was a deliberate act for reconnaissance purposes—in other words, to obtain important information concerning the Soviet Union. It has also been alleged—and neither has this fact been denied—that



such flights have taken place on previous occasions. These facts are not in dispute. They constitute, in our opinion, an important issue which involves, first, a juridical question and, second, a question which is of far greater importance, namely, international relations, particularly the relationship between two of the most powerful countries of the world, the United States and the Soviet Union.

“As a Member of the United Nations which accepts the principles of its Charter, Ceylon considers that the territorial integrity of each State, big or small, and the sanctity of its sovereign rights are inviolable and are guaranteed not only by the Charter, but also by universal acceptance of these principles. The observance of these basic and fundamental rights is absolutely necessary for the preservation of peace among all nations. We cannot have a peaceful and orderly society except under the rule of law and the fullest compliance with international treaty obligations.

“Therefore, we hold that, at the present time, it is a rule of international law that the air space over the territory of any country belongs to that country and cannot be violated without a breach of international law. I think that this important fact must be fully recognised. Only recently, at the second United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, when nearly eighty States were trying to draft a law fixing the breadth of the territorial sea in an attempt at the development and codification of international law, many States, particularly many important maritime powers, argued against the increase of the width of the territorial sea beyond six miles, on the ground, *inter alia*, that sovereignty over the territorial sea would imply corresponding sovereignty over the air space and that this would obstruct existing facilities for aerial navigation.

“This confirms the contention that there is universal recognition of the principle that airspace over the territory of any State is a sovereign right of that State, and that it

cannot be invaded by any other State without its authority and permission. This right which is particularly important to States and, as a small State which pays special attention to its obligations under the Charter and to international law and practice, Ceylon would like to stress this right very emphatically. Ever since aviation began and since it developed so rapidly, this right has been recognized and observed and, to strengthen such observance, a special organization has been set up under the auspices of the United Nations. It is called the International Civil Aviation Organization.

“This organization negotiated an international agreement which was signed in Chicago in 1944. The signatories which were sovereign States, big and small, accepted in that agreement the principle of the sovereign rights of each State to the airspace over its territory. Among the big States which subscribed to this principle was the United States. I believe the Soviet Union did not sign that international agreement, but I am sure that the Soviet Government fully accepts and subscribes to that principle, because its complaint to the Security Council today is made under the same principle.

“It is, however, a fact that there have been violations of this principle for various purposes, particularly for the purpose of espionage. From time to time, such acts of espionage have been detected and exposed. But avoidance of international treaty obligations and laws, even if it is done secretly, must be regarded as reprehensible. Espionage has, as has already been pointed out, existed for centuries and will continue as long as human frailties continue and will last as long as States suspect each other, fear each other and seek to dominate each other. But espionage is carried out in secret, in darkness, shunning publicity as if it were ashamed of its own ugliness. We suppose it is considered necessary in the civilized society of today, although the act itself is demoralizing and degrading.



"We cannot eradicate it easily from society, not perhaps until human nature changes radically and brings about trust and confidence, goodwill and understanding. The fact however, that espionage exists in diverse forms on the earth below and in the air above and now, also, it is suspected, in the rarer atmosphere of outer space, is no justification for the repudiation of the principle of sovereign right to the territorial integrity of the airspace of a State.

"Now, it has been said that espionage is necessary for the purpose of obtaining intelligence, which is essential especially in the nuclear age for the defence of States from surprise attacks. That is a hard reality of the world as it is today, torn asunder by mutual suspicion and fear. The moral fibre of nations has been weakened by resort to acts of this kind, but, whatever we may say, it will continue until some international accord can be negotiated which will obviate the need for it. But we cannot overlook the fact that, however much it may be necessary for purposes of defence, it involves a violation of international law and practice, and amounts to an attack against the sovereign rights of States, when such espionage violates, say, for instance, the airspace of any State. From this point of view, we deprecate strongly any attempt to evade the obligations of international law and of international treaties for any reason whatsoever.

"Now, I would like to deal with the second aspect of the question under discussion. This refers to the relationship of the two Powers concerned. The legal implication of the United States plane over Soviet territory has been dealt with already. Without minimizing its importance I would now like to examine the far more important aspect of its impact on the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union. This, we consider, is of vital importance, not only to these two countries, but also to the whole world.

"In the nuclear age, when both these countries are armed to the teeth with nuclear

weapons, which in a moment can bring about death and destruction to each other, to the whole human race, to small countries as well as big countries, it is vital that goodwill and understanding and a capacity to live and let live is established between them.

"I have referred on many other occasions to the improvement in the relationship between these two great countries which began recently and appeared to have considerably improved in the fall of last year. With all the ideological and other differences between these two countries, with all the suspicion that exists and with fear of the domination of the one over the other, it is foolish to expect completely harmonious relations all at once. But the whole world hailed with delight and certainly heaved a sigh of relief when they recognized a sign of better relations between them. What has been referred to as the Camp David spirit signified this improvement.

"We are sorry that the efforts made to follow up this improvement by the holding of a summit meeting towards the end of last year did not materialize. I hope that the theory that such an attempt was prevented is not true. It is, however, a pity it did not take place at that time, for we feel that if it had, the course of history might have been changed for the better and the people of the world would perhaps have seen the dawn of a new era of goodwill which might at last fulfil the universal yearning of all peoples for peace. But alas this did not happen, and we were depressed during the early part of this year that the new spirit which was born of Camp David was not doing so well. The shooting down of the United States reconnaissance plane over the Soviet Union then occurred.

"This, of course, could not have improved relations between the two countries. On the contrary, this incident put a heavy strain on the relationship between them. This is why I stated earlier that the incident of 1st May, was important, especially in regard to the relationship of the two great countries.



"It was bad in itself to be detected in the act of violating the territorial integrity of another State, but it was made worse by the unhappy blunder of seeking not only to justify such violation but also to indicate that such violations would continue. With all humility, recognizing that we are one of the very small Powers in a world of giants, we have to say in all sincerity that we strongly deprecate the action which led to the flight of the U-2 aircraft, especially on the eve of the summit conference. We unequivocally disapprove of this and other such flights. The detection of the flight must necessarily impair relations between these two countries, must lead to increased international tension and constitute a great danger to world peace.

"We therefore greatly regret that it happened. This incident, apart from destroying temporarily the hope engendered by the new-born spirit of goodwill of only a few months ago, has already broken up the summit meeting which had been promoted so assiduously by persons interested in the establishment of peace, and on which so much depended. It will do no good at this time and at this meeting to engage in the interesting enterprise of discovering the cause of its failure. There may be several causes, but it is certain that one of these causes was the flight incident. The unfortunate incident has happened, and with it there has been swept aside the summit meeting and—more important even than that, in our opinion—the goodwill that had been generated.

"To rekindle that goodwill is our most important task, for we recognize that the ultimate destruction of the world cannot be avoided except on the basis of understanding, harmony and goodwill among the big Powers and particularly the two most powerful among them. We are not alone in this view. It has been universally voiced in every part of the world. It can be taken as a universal appeal which should be heeded by the great Powers. It is made because it is important to all people, great and small, to secure peace.

The smallest of us has a right to it, and a right to ask those in whose hands lies the issue of peace or war to decide for peace.

"But peace cannot be won by mere words or by indulgence in threats or by the show of force. Peace can be won only by acts which will remove suspicion and fear. This will lead to total disarmament, and then we shall lead the way to peace among men. In support of this approach for seeking once again to create better understanding, I would like to quote briefly from a statement made by the leaders of two under-developed countries. I refer to the important communique issued by two great world leaders—Mr. Nehru, Prime Minister of India, and President Nasser of the United Arab Republic. They said, on 20th May :

*"We deeply regret, therefore, the failure of the summit conference. We realize that particular responsibility in regard to peace and war rests on the great Powers, which have developed industrially and technologically and in the production of terrible weapons of modern warfare. But this responsibility is not confined to them. It is a responsibility shared by all countries and peoples alike, for the fate of every country is involved in a proper solution of the vital and terrible question of peace and war. It is of the utmost importance that the setback resulting from the failure of the summit conference should not be allowed to worsen the present international situation. Otherwise this can only lead to an intensification of the cold war and the possibility of a dreadful war which would put an end to all hopes of progress ; and, indeed, lead to a world disaster, of which it is difficult even to measure the terrible consequences."*

"It will be noticed that in the joint communique the two leaders lay the emphasis on the responsibility of the great Powers in regard to peace and war. There is no reference to the U-2 incident. What they urge as the primary consideration is the prevention



of the deterioration of the international situation. This is the need of the hour—this is what we ourselves should like to emphasize—and it can be obtained by doing everything possible to improve international relations.

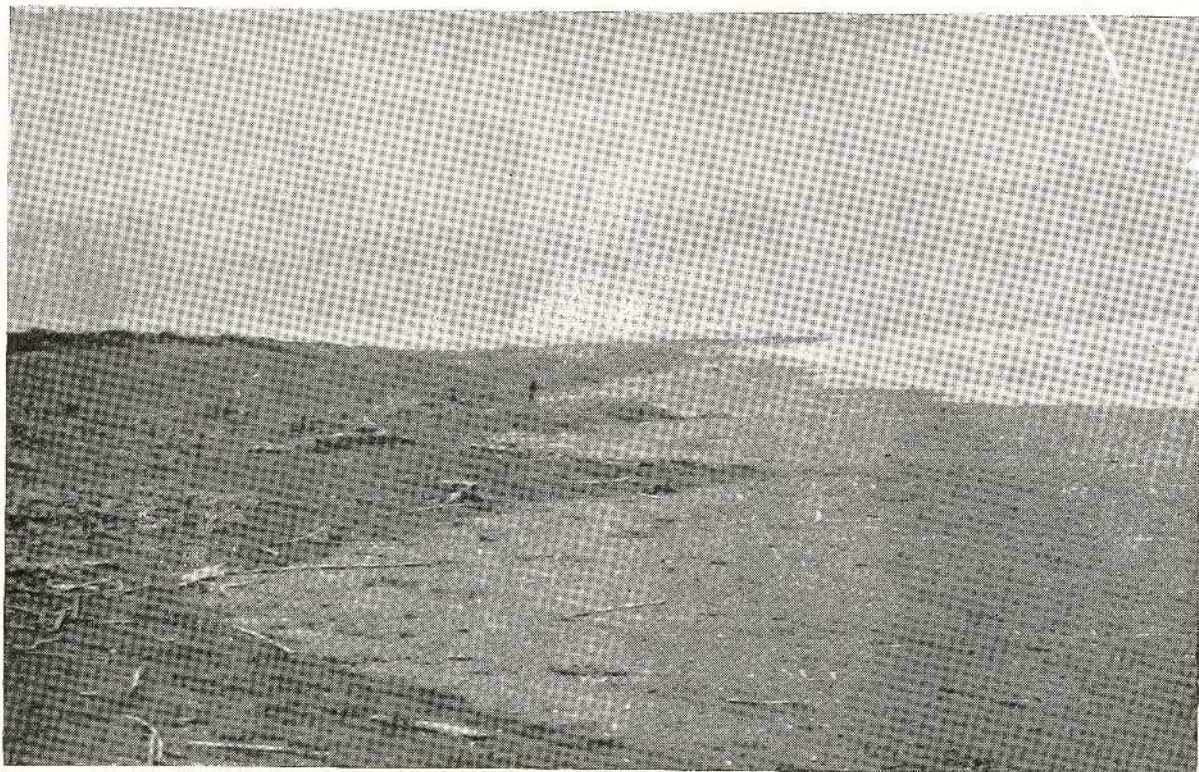
“It is a solution we must now find. We must not be discouraged by failure. It has been said that “failures are the pillars of success”, and in the present case that saying is quite applicable. If we are to build anew the spirit of goodwill, we must do nothing to exacerbate feelings and impair goodwill. It is in this light that my Government views the Soviet resolution. If there had been no new development of a conciliatory nature following on the U-2 flight incident, and if the case rested with the interpretation drawn from the statement made by Secretary of State Herter, we might have felt compelled to condemn the flight as an unwarranted invasion of the territorial integrity of the Soviet Union. But, in our view, the statement made by President Eisenhower that, after the flight incident and a few days before the summit meeting was to take place, he had stopped all such flights over the Soviet Union, and that such flights would not be resumed, should be accepted as satisfactory.

“Surely the ordinary implication of this is a recognition that a mistake had been made and it would not be repeated. It is, in our interpretation, more than that; it is an ex-

pression of regret of which a great man should not be ashamed, but should be proud. Surely, after such a statement from the head of one of the great States of the world, some attempt should have been made to continue the summit meeting. In our opinion, the statement made any condemnation in any formal way quite unnecessary, because the statement indicates acceptance of international law and treaty obligations. We are satisfied that the principle of law, to which we attach very great importance, has by this statement been vindicated, and we are satisfied that the United States will implement in good faith—just as we would believe in the good faith of any other sovereign State—its promise not to resume such flights.

“Reference has been made to a subsequent statement attributed to President Eisenhower which is interpreted as limiting such promise to his period of office as President. He need not have made this additional statement, in our opinion, as it was obvious that from a constitutional point of view he could not have spoken for anyone but himself and the government he represents. He spoke as President of the United States, and it is difficult to believe that his successor—or any successor government—would lightly deviate from such a solemn assurance made in the name of the United States without some strong and adequate reason and after consultation with the Government to which that assurance had been given.”





A part of the ilmenite deposit

## The Mineral Sands Corporation, Pulmoddai

---

ESME RANKINE

EXPECTED to come into production before the end of this year is the Government-sponsored Ilmenite Factory at Pulmoddai, 35 miles north of Trincomalee.

There are two ways to Pulmoddai. One is along the north coast road which involves the negotiation of three ferries, a slow process in Ceylon; the other is through Kebitigollewa on the Vavuniya-Horowapatana crossroad. Neither is very attractive during the rains.

In appearance, ilmenite is a powdery-black sand with a sub-metallic lustre, appreciably

heavier than ordinary beach sand; in composition, it is a double oxide of iron and titanium containing 54 per cent titanium dioxide, chief constituent of paint, besides being used in a great variety of pigments, sizes and fillers in products such as rubber, plastics, cosmetics and textiles. It is found in beach sand deposits and occurs in many parts of our coasts, although the deposit at Pulmoddai is by far the largest.

A census taken by the Department of Mineralogy as long ago as 1945 lists these deposits as occurring also in Tirukovil, 45 miles south of Batticaloa, estimating half a



million tons of ilmenite in a stretch about three miles long; several smaller isolated deposits along the west coast from just south of Negombo up to near Galle, with a "clean concentrate two to three inches thick" a few miles north of the Kelani River mouth; and a well concentrated deposit at Kudiramalai, 40 miles south of Mannar.

### Other Mineral Sands

THE raw sand in which ilmenite is found contains also other mineral sands, "rare earths" as they are called, of which monazite, source of thorium, zircon and rutile are the most important, commercially. Thorium,

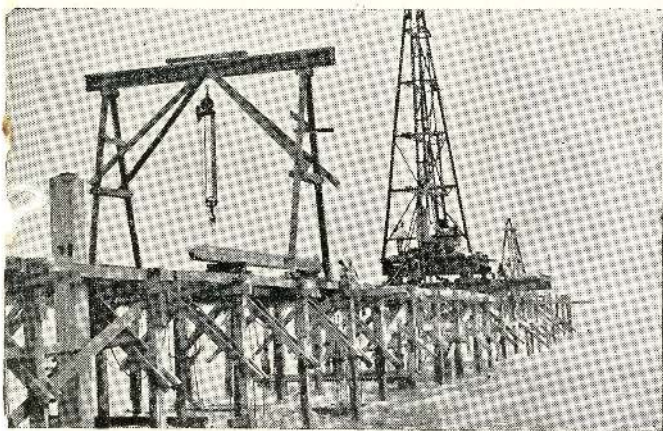
beginning humbly in the manufacture of gas mantles, is itself contained in cerium, which goes into the composition of a certain class of pyrophoric alloys. Zircon is used in the manufacture of high temperature refractories. Rutile is the natural form of titanium dioxide but it is rarer than ilmenite and more difficult to concentrate. Its most important use is in the manufacture of arc welding electrodes.

In Ceylon, monazite, zircon and rutile are the main by-products of the ilmenite sands, with small quantities of garnet, spinel, magnetite and quartz. The Induruwa deposit (40 miles south of Colombo) was worked for monazite in 1918-22 and was found to contain 8 to 10 per cent of this mineral—the highest percentage in the world—but the deposit is small and workable only at certain seasons of the year. Monazite occurs in varying densities—from 2 per cent to as much as 40 per cent in some pockets—in nearly all the ilmenite deposits in Ceylon.

The Pulmoddai deposit is measured as about 5 miles in length in a stretch 200 feet wide and 5 to 7 feet deep, in present content at least 4 million tons of sand. As the sea constantly washes up replenishments it is estimated that, even if the deposit is fully worked, the supply is good for several years more. Tests have shown that the clean concentrate along the beach contains about 75 per cent ilmenite with the balance unevenly distributed between rutile and zircon, while 10 to 60 per cent of ilmenite may be further extracted from the scrub-covered land-dunes inland.

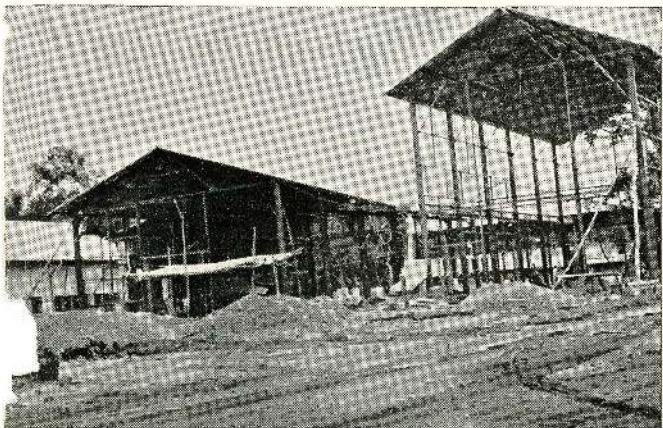
### Most valuable

THE factory plans to work 100,000 tons of raw sand per year, estimated to produce 60,000 tons of ilmenite, 4,000 tons of rutile, and 3,000 tons of zircon as the annual output. Of these, rutile is the most valuable commercially. Shipping will be carried out at Pulmoddai where ships can approach up to one

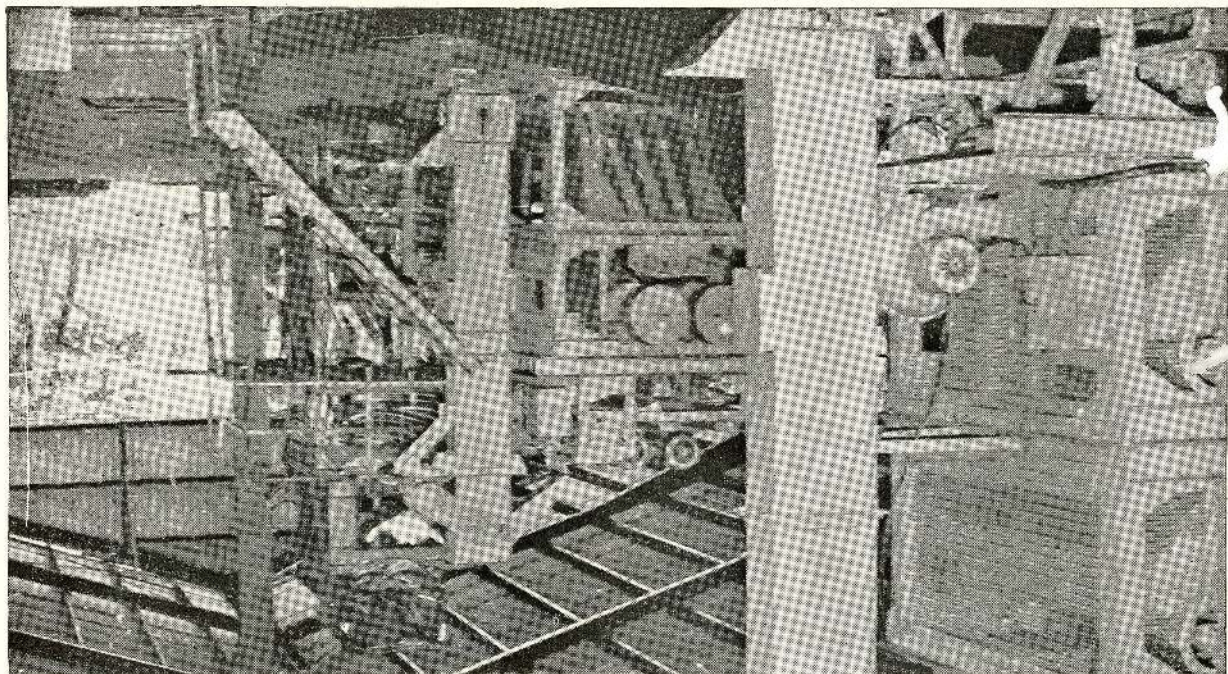


▲ 600 ft. pier in course of construction

▼ Factory for separation of minerals and godowns







Pilot plant for testing efficiency of design



Dragline excavator,  
dumper and loader  
working as one unit  
on future reservoir



and a half miles from shore. For this, a 600-foot barge-jetty is near completion, connected with the factory by conveyer-belts.

The machinery used is Japanese manufactured and four Japanese advisers have been provided under the Colombo Plan. They have been in residence at Pulmoddai for some months. Pilot machinery already installed is being tested for efficiency of design before final orders are placed. The workshops comprise, besides the pilot machinery, a completely equipped laboratory for analysing and sampling material, a power house with four generators, one developing 83.6 KW and three 151.5 KW, three godowns for housing stocks, and maintenance services for the machinery. The completed factory will include two electro-static separators for by-products.

The Mineral Sands Corporation is a Government project and is directed by an autonomous body. Quarters are provided for staff and labour. They have their own water supply, co-operative stores, canteen and a recreation club, with hopes for future expansion. Present staff membership of the club is 45 and there is a proposal to open the club to labourers as well. A comfortably equipped guest house provides accommodation for visiting staff.

It must be remembered that Pulmoddai is on the edge of the jungle with no amenities whatsoever, not even a proper road. The rail-head is Trincomalee, the nearest post-office and telephone Kuchchaveli. In the future, all this will change undoubtedly, but for the present its isolation makes Pulmoddai very dependent on its own resources.

#### CARE GIFTS DOLL-MAKING MACHINERY

THE American organization, CARE, has gifted doll-making machinery and equipment valued at Rs. 13,000 to the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries.

This machinery is to be used in the doll-making centres set up by the Department in various parts of the Island.

The equipment was formally handed over to the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel, by Mr. Milo A. Kamstra, Chief of the CARE Programme in Ceylon, at a ceremony held on June 13th.

Accepting the gift on behalf of the Government, Dr. Kaleel said :

"It is my privilege as the Minister of Home Affairs and Rural Development to accept on behalf of the Government of Ceylon, machinery and equipment valued at approximately Rs. 13,000 donated by CARE for use at Doll-making Centres established by the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries. Two years ago the Department obtained the services of a Japanese Expert to introduce improved techniques in doll manufacture to our

Centres. These new methods are now being introduced to several Doll-making Centres set up by the Department in various parts of the country. The machinery and equipment donated by CARE such as sewing machines, spray guns, electric irons, hot plates, tool kits, &c., will be issued to these Centres for this purpose. I would like to assure Mr. Milo A. Kamstra, Chief of CARE Programme, Ceylon, that the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries will make the best possible use of these machinery and equipment for the benefit of the workers attending these Production and Training Centres.

"CARE is a voluntary organization and I understand that over 200 persons in the United States and Canada have contributed towards this gift. On behalf of the Government of Ceylon and the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries, I extend my sincere thanks to every one of these donors. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Milo A. Kamstra, Chief of CARE Programme, Ceylon, who took the initiative and interest in obtaining this gift for the Department."





Clonal seedling stumps  
interplanted with tapioca

## The Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme

W. P. H. DIAS \*

THE Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme was inaugurated on May 3, 1953, with the appointment of a Replanting Board by the then Minister of Agriculture and Food, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, K. C. M. G.

A Trade Pact which had been concluded with China in 1953 placed rubber prices on a stable footing, thereby affording Ceylon an opportunity to make Rubber Rehabilitation a practical reality. Compared with replanting programmes carried out in other rubber producing countries, Ceylon's original activities in rubber replanting were meagre.

Under the Rubber Replanting Scheme, proprietors of uneconomic rubber lands who are prepared to replant their lands with approved varieties of high-yielding rubber,

are paid subsidies on the following graded scale :—

- (i) If the area to be replanted forms part of an estate 100 acres or more in extent, the subsidy paid is Rs. 700 per acre.
- (ii) If the area to be replanted forms part of an estate between 10 and 100 acres in extent, the subsidy paid is Rs. 900 per acre.
- (iii) In the case of smallholdings under 10 acres in extent, the subsidy paid is Rs. 1,000 per acre.

The Rubber Replanting Scheme, as originally planned, aimed at the replanting of 65,000 acres of worn-out rubber land

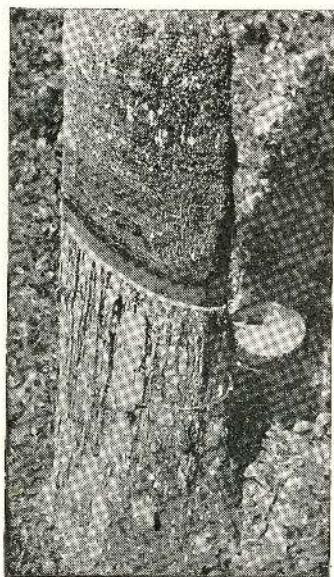
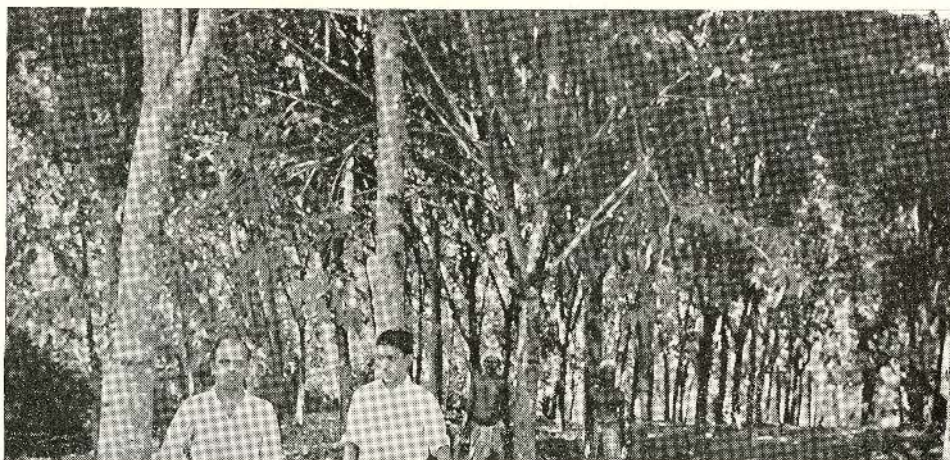
\* The writer of this article has been a rubber planter for over 50 years. He was Chairman of the Rubber Research Board and Vice-Chairman of the Kalutara District Planters' Association, and is still a member of the Rubber Replanting Advisory Board, Rubber Research Scheme, the Rubber Advisory Board and the Central Board of Agriculture.



▶ A picture of the Egal Oya Nursery, the largest rubber nursery in the world



▶ A subsidiary smallholding nearly ready for commencement of tapping. The picture shows the owner of the smallholding with the local rubber instructor and two labourers who assisted in the working of the tapping panels on the young trees



◀ Rubber tree after tapping

Replanted rubber after tapping ▶



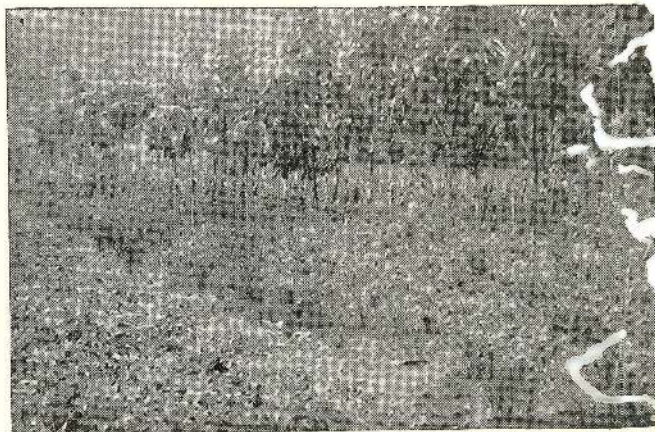


with high-yielding varieties of rubber in the five-year period 1953-57. In 1955, the pace of replanting under the Scheme was stepped up and the target area to be replanted in the five-year period 1953-57 was increased from 65,000 acres to 90,000 acres. Even this revised target was exceeded. The actual area replanted in the first five years of the Scheme (i. e. by the end of 1957) was 90,206 acres.

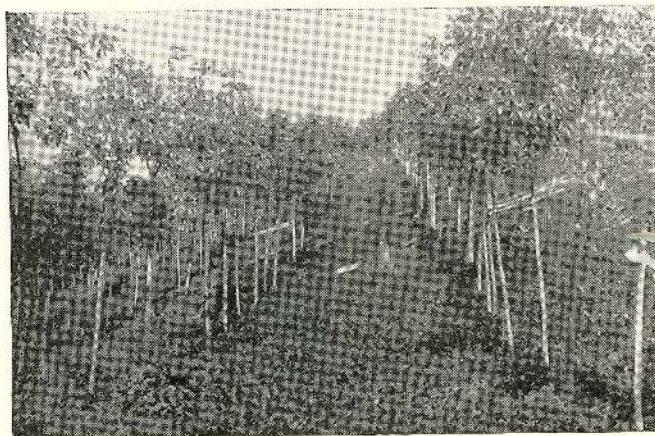
### Further period

AT the conclusion of the first five-year period, the Government decided to continue the Rubber Replanting Scheme for a further period of 5 years (1958-62). It is hoped to replant 110,000 acres in the second five-year period at a rate of approximately 22,000 acres a year. When this area is added to the area already replanted in the five-year period 1953-57, the total area replanted under the Scheme by the end of 1962 would be approximately 200,000 acres out of a total acreage of 665,000 acres.

During the first years of its operation, the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme was financed by the levy of a cess on exports of rubber. At the tail end of 1957, the levy of this cess was suspended owing to the severe depression in the rubber market and alternative arrangements were made for financing the Scheme, with an annual target of 22,000 acres a year, costing approximately 20 million rupees a year. Under the Economic Aid Agreement signed in Peking between the Governments of China and Ceylon on 19th September, 1957, the Government of the People's Republic of China agreed to give Ceylon economic assistance to the value of 15 million rupees annually for a period of five years from 1958 to 1962 to meet part of the cost of the Rubber Replanting Scheme. The Ceylon Government agreed to meet, from Treasury funds, the balance of approximately 5 million rupees a year required to finance the Scheme.



Clonal seedlings interplanted with chillies and groundnuts



Newly replanted rubber

In this connection it is interesting to recall that Sir Oliver Goonetilleke in his opening address to the Replanting Board made the following statement :—

*“In my opinion there is no other Board in this Island which has a greater opportunity than you, the members of the Rubber Replanting Board, have of ensuring the economic prosperity of the Island. You are the trustees of a fairly substantial sum. If you fail in achieving the objectives for which this Board stands, you will be removing by your failure, from the Island's sources of revenue, one of the three crops on which the economy of the Island and its future happiness largely*



*depend. I do not think there is any undertaking more important than that of rehabilitation of the rubber industry. On your able shoulders rests, to a considerable degree, the task of achieving the future prosperity and survival of this large and important industry and one of those industries which forms the life blood of the nation".*

### Individual Applications

BESIDES general questions affecting the finance and the administration of the Scheme, the Board also considers individual applications and recommends whether subsidies should be paid or not.

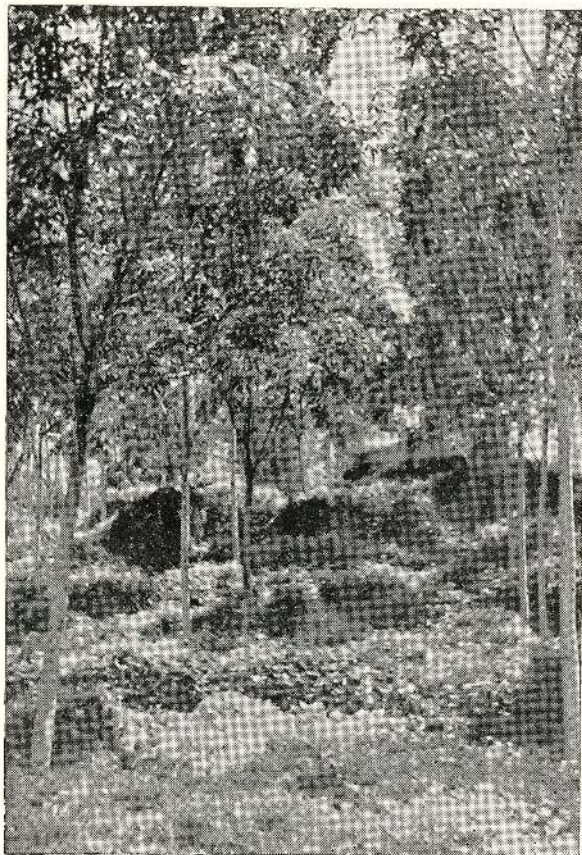
The success of the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme depends very largely on the quality of the officers who inspect and report on the lands replanted under the Scheme. It was decided shortly after the Scheme was launched that the Rubber Control Department should not employ an army of full-time Inspectors to make these inspections and reports, as had been done in the case of the Malayan Government's Rubber Replanting Scheme. It was decided, instead, to invite experienced planters (who were generally the Superintendents of rubber estates over 300 acres in extent) to undertake these inspections. A panel of Inspecting Officers has been formed in each D. R. O's Division, and planters from these panels are asked to inspect and report on the areas replanted under the Scheme. An inspection of the land is carried out before each instalment of the the subsidy is paid.

The decision to use the services of experienced Estate Superintendents to visit and report on the areas replanted under the Scheme, instead of using an army of Government Inspectors for this purpose, has proved to be a very wise one. This decision has also kept the cost of the inspections down to a very low level. The Inspecting Officers are paid fees which, including all travelling expenses, range from Rs. 20 to Rs. 100 per visit,

depending on the area inspected. Experienced planters would, as a rule, require much higher fees to undertake inspections of this nature but, thanks to the co-operation of the Planters' Association, the majority of planters invited have agreed to undertake inspecting duties at these nominal rates. As a result, the total cost of the inspections is less than 3 per cent of the total cost of the Scheme.

Another matter of very great importance is that only the best strains of high-yielding rubber are used for replanting under the Scheme. Only those varieties of planting material which have been tested and found satisfactory under varying conditions in different parts of Ceylon, are approved for use under the Scheme. When the Rubber

Replanted rubber after two years





Replanting Subsidy Scheme was launched in 1953, there was an acute shortage of high-grade planting material in the Island. Many applicants, particularly small-holders, were unable to secure their requirements of planting material.

In order to relieve this shortage, it was decided to establish a number of Government nurseries in the principal rubber-growing districts of the Island to supply high-grade planting material to small-holders. The largest of these nurseries was established at Egal Oya in the Kalutara District. It covers an area of about 125 acres. This is the largest single rubber nursery in the world. The second largest nursery, nearly 60 acres in extent, has been established at Hedigalla, also in the Kalutara District. These two nurseries are run by the Rubber Control Department, with the advice and assistance of the Rubber Research Institute.

### Minimum Girth

THE first area replanted under the Replanting Scheme was brought into tapping in 1959. It is important that young rubber planted under the Scheme should not be tapped until the trees have reached a sufficient age and girth. The Replanting Board has laid down that the minimum girth required, before tapping commences, is 20 inches at a height of three feet, measured from the ground in the case of clonal seedlings and from the bud union in the case of budded stumps. Before the final instalment of the subsidy is paid a short advisory leaflet explaining how young rubber should be tapped and when tapping should commence is issued to the permit holder.

In addition, smallholders are given practical advice and assistance on correct tapping methods by the field staff of the R. R. I.

Lectures and demonstrations on tapping are also organised in the principal rubber growing areas. If in spite of this propaganda, any person taps the young rubber trees before the trees have reached the requisite age and girth, legal action can be taken against the person concerned. Under Regulations which have been framed, the Rubber Control Department can call upon a person who taps immature rubber to refund all the instalments of the subsidy paid to him. These Regulations will be used only as a last resort and the main emphasis will be on advisory services.

Rubber is not to be tapped unless it grows to 21 inches in girth at a height of three feet. The smallholding Department looks after the smallholdings replanted and advises the smallholders.

### Rubber Research Institute

IN 1942, 1,000 acres of crown land at Hedigalla in the Kalutara District were obtained. There are 700 acres planted with best of clones available, which will give 1,000 lbs of rubber per acre in the near future. People who are wise enough to replant their worn-out rubber and old estates can produce 1,000 lbs per acre in the coming years.

During a visit to Malaya in September 1956, I was very much surprised to see the smallholdings in Malaya. Small-holdings are allowed to grow secondary crops like bananas, pineapples, sweet-potatoes, chillies, papaws, tapioca and coffee and vegetables, a practice discouraged in Ceylon. Interplanting of food crops was tried out in Ceylon during the war but it was not a success. We should watch the results in Malaya.





*Tandava and Lasya*—This picture is an expression of these two aspects of the dance. Both manly vigour and feminine softness are necessary aspects of *Uda Rata* dancing

## Hill Country Dances and Present Trends

JAMES GOONEWARDENE

THE passion of the true dancer sometimes expresses itself in an attempt to break through the limitations of his art. These attempts frequently bring in their train a new vitality and force, but often they are destructive, and the original beauty of the dances is lost. The desire to break loose from tradition is not always a guarantee that a true art is being born, and a great passion expressed. The true artist may well find all the scope he needs within the bounds of tradition itself.

While encouraging development and growth we must be wary that the original dance is not killed and a hybrid one put in its place. In Ceylon just now there is growing a quarrel between those who want to preserve the *vannams*, the *pantheru* dances, and the *Uddeki* dances, and other hill country dances, as the dancers think their ancestors danced under the Sinhalese kings. Thus, those who want to, break loose and develop along new lines. The orthodox dancers want the *Ves* dress, which is the



traditional dress of the hill country (*Uda Rata*) dancer, to be used without the least modification. They want the same loud drumming regardless of a change in the rhythm, tempo and mood of the dance, and they want also the same open air stage for their dance.

### The Conflict

ONE or two points from a brief survey of the recent history of Ceylon dancing would help us to appreciate better the nature of the conflict. It does seem that dancing really got a fillip only after the visit to Ceylon of the Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore. Before this visit the *Uda rata* dances had been seen publicly only during the Kandy Perahera, and on the rare occasions when the *Kohomba Kankariya* was performed, which, though containing the entire grammar of the *Uda rata* dances, was really a religious ritual like the *tovil* and *bali* dances of the south, performed for prosperity and health.

The Indian poet had brought with him a troupe of Indian dancers, and these dancers seen in Ceylon for the first time doing Kathakali and Bharata Natyam had re-kindled fires in the breasts of certain lovers of the dance art. They had seen the beauty of the local dances but had not dared to bring them before local audiences for fear of ridicule. So low had the Ceylon art fallen. One of these silent lovers of the dance was Seebert Dias, the father of Chitra Sena who is now one of Ceylon's better known dancers. Seebert Dias decided he too would bring the dance to the stage, and he did so, not as a performance purely of dancers, but by bringing in the dances as interludes in several stage dramas he put on the boards. There were similar attempts being made by others in other places.

The bringing of the dance to the stage was the first important break from tradition.

This had several noticeable repercussions. The first was the break this involved from the traditional *maduwa* or open compound, and a consequence of this were certain visible changes in the style of the dance. The confined stage and the sound of the wooden boards had an immediate effect on the whirling and pirouetting and stamping, which the more spectacular dancers loved so much to do. The dance became more restrained and controlled. The stage also had an effect on drumming, which had to be softened.

One of the traditionalists whom I spoke to, seeing the effect the stage had on these aspects of the dance, seemed to think they were desirable changes. He also thought that the word 'traditional' was an abused word. Certain changes have recently been introduced into the *vannams* by the traditionalists themselves with a view to conveying better the meaning of the dances. In the *Ukussa* (hawk or garuda) and the *Gajagaha* (elephant) *vannams*, the bird and animal mentioned are now more closely imitated for the purpose of helping the urbanised and western educated to follow the meaning of the dance. It is his view that no two dancers dance alike. This, he thinks, is due to the fact that the Gurunanse (teacher) never completely reveals his art to a pupil. The pupil is obliged to learn his art by patient waiting, watching and imitating rather than by being taught the dances in their entirety. This has invariably led to difference in individual interpretation.

Nevertheless, the *pada* on which the dance steps are based are fixed and unalterable. Here is an example of such a *pada* from the *Dandiya haramba—thei-kitha—thei-thum*. Every step and movement of the dance is prescribed by a *pada*, yet the dances lead to variations in styles, and the need for stylising is urged both by the traditionalists and anti-traditionalists. In the *Mandiya* stance, which is the basic position at the beginning



of the dance, the dancers hold different positions, some have their bodies forward, others backwards. In the *mudras* (hand movements) some dancers tend to keep their hands in line with their hips, others up in line with their shoulders. Some even sway their hips like the Egyptian hip dancers, thinking that that is more beautiful, still others shake their heads in a grotesque manner. Another fault is the slurring over in the steps and turns, making them jerky and abrupt. These have often come from bad training methods. There is now a distinct need for a stylising of the training methods also. The most important part of the dancer's training is the *Dandiya haramba* or the cross-bar exercises, and *Goda haramba*, exercises without the cross-bar.

### Important Step

IN the recent history of the *Uda rata* dances, another important step was taken when women took to learning these dances. Women have now been dancing these *Uda rata* dances for nearly fifteen years, and they have had a considerable influence on the development of the dance since its revival. According to the *Natya Shastra* by Bharata, which book deals with many of the dances of Ceylon, and nearly all of the dances of India and the East, there are two important aspects in a dance. These are *Tandava*, the vigorous or manly movements, and *Lasya*, the soft, graceful or feminine movements of the dance. It is still erroneously believed that the hill country dances are peculiarly male dances. The belief was fostered by the fact that for a long time only males danced them, and the males, many of them exhibitionist and untrained, were inclined to stress the violent and vigorous movements, particularly the whirling and pirouetting at the expense of the *lasya* movements. One has only to observe a good dancer to immediately correct

this erroneous belief. A dancer must combine these two aspects of the *Uda rata* dances for both are present in them. What the coming of women into the dance has done is to once more bring into prominence the *lasya* qualities of the dances.

This leads us to the next problem facing the dancer, that of the continued wearing of the *Ves* dress. The beauty of any dance lies in the combining of the feet, body and hand movements, and they must move and weave their patterns without hindrance or interference, and their woven patterns must be seen clearly, without being obscured and covered over with masks, several yards of cloth, frills and flounces. In India most of the dancers doing the *Kathakali* on the stage do away with the heavy clothing and head-dress which from ancient times have been considered an essential item in the *Kathakali* dance. Some of the dancers in Ceylon have done away with the *Ves* dress, and others who still wear it agree that twenty yards of long cloth is too cumbersome, and that the present twenty yards of light organdie has made a considerable difference. Yet they cannot conceive dancing without the traditional *Ves* dress. This is a struggle between custom and expediency, and only time will show which will triumph.

Space does not permit a discussion of the place music has in these dances. I can only briefly say that there is not a proper appreciation of the need for an artistic control of drumming. The drummers do not seem to understand the effect the correct working up of a crescendo on the drums can have on the dance. During the *lasya* and *mathra* portions of the dance, soft, controlled drumming would make a difference, I think. The traditionalists do not want any softening done. They seem to think that it would effect the rhythm, not realising that loudness has nothing to do with the tempo or rhythm of the dance, or of drumming. It is all a matter of habit, and habit dies hard.





*Ceylon gifts tea to Iranian earthquake victims.*—As a gesture of sympathy in connection with the recent earthquake disaster in Iran, the Government and the people of Ceylon gifted 1,000 pounds of tea to the Government and the people of Iran to be used as relief supplies for Iranian earthquake victims.

The tea was provided by the Ceylon Tea Propaganda Board and was transported from Colombo to Teheran via Karachi through the joint efforts and goodwill of Air Ceylon and Iranian Airlines. The formal presentation of the tea took place at a simple ceremony held at noon on May 16, 1960, at the Imperial Iranian Embassy, Karachi.

The tea was presented on behalf of the Government of Ceylon by His Excellency Major-General Anton Muttukumar, High Commissioner for Ceylon, and was received by His Excellency Mr. Ahamed Ghadimi Navai, Ambassador for Iran in Karachi.



## Foreign Affairs

---

HIS Excellency Dr. Laszlo Reczei, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hungarian People's Republic to Ceylon, presented his credentials to His Excellency the Governor-General at a brief ceremony at Queen's House on May 2, 1960.

Earlier, he called on the Prime Minister at his official residence at "Temple Trees" in Colombo.

### Canada's New High Commissioner to Ceylon

THE Government of Canada has, with the concurrence of the Government of Ceylon, decided to appoint Mr. James George as High Commissioner for Canada in Ceylon in succession to Mr. Nik Cavell. He is expected to arrive in Ceylon about July.

Mr. James George was born in Toronto, Ontario, on September 14, 1918. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1940 and won the Rhodes scholarship for Ontario. In 1940 he joined the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve and served in United Kingdom, North and South Atlantic and the Mediterranean. He joined the External Affairs Ministry in April, 1945, and was Third Secretary, Athens, in September, 1945, and at Ottawa in 1948. He was Adviser to the Canadian Permanent Delegation to the United Nations, New York in June, 1951, and was appointed Counsellor to the Delegation to North Atlantic Council, Paris, in July, 1957.

### Thailand's Ambassador to Ceylon

THE Royal Government of Thailand has, with the concurrence of the Government of Ceylon, decided to appoint His Excellency Mr. Sukich Nimmanheminda, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand in India, concurrently as their

Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Ceylon in succession to His Excellency Mr. Bun Charoenchai.

Mr. Nimmanheminda, who was born on November 25, 1906, graduated in 1930 and obtained the M.Sc. (Lond.), in the following year. In 1933 he was appointed lecturer in Mathematics and Hydraulics at Chulalankarana University and in 1938 he became Secretary-General, Chulalankarana University. In 1940 he was appointed Acting Dean of Faculty of Art and Science, Chulalankarana University and Member of Executive Council of Chulalankarana University. In 1941 he was Head of the Department of Mathematics, Chulalankarana University and in 1942 he was Director-General of the Department of Vocational Education, Ministry of Education. He was a member of the House of Senate from 1946-47 and was elected member of Parliament in 1948. He became Deputy Minister of Education the same year. He was Minister of Industries from 1949-52 and Minister of Economic Affairs in 1957. In 1958 he became Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Affairs.

### Messages

THE following are texts of messages sent to the Prime Minister of Japan and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chile, by the Prime Minister of Ceylon:—

#### *To Prime Minister of Japan*

"ON behalf of the Government and people of Ceylon and on my own behalf, I wish to express to the Government and people of Japan and to you personally our deepest sympathies on the destruction caused to life and property in Japan by the recent tidal wave.



Our deep sorrow goes at this time to the homeless, bereaved, destitute who suffer most as a result of this tragedy."

*To Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chile*

"ON behalf of the Government and people of Ceylon and on my own behalf, I wish to express to you and the Government and People of Chile our deepest sympathies on the destruction caused to life and property in Chile by consecutive natural disasters which have struck your country.

"Our grief goes at this time to the homeless, bereaved, destitute and other tragic victims of this holocaust."

#### **Ceylon elected to I. L. O's Governing Body**

THE Government of Ceylon has been elected a full member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation at the elections held during the recent session of the I. L. O. conference. Ceylon secured the largest number of votes.

Ceylon will occupy this seat, which has been set apart by the general convention for an Asian country, for a period of three years. In addition to Ceylon, nine other governments from other parts of the world, have been elected at this year's session to full membership of the Governing Body.

The Governing Body is the Executive Council of the I. L. O. and meets about three times a year to decide on questions of policy and programmes of the I. L. O.

#### **Ceylon recognises New Government of Turkey**

THE Government of Ceylon has extended formal recognition to the new Government of Turkey. A letter to this effect addressed to the new Government has been conveyed by the Ceylon High Commission in New Delhi.

#### **First Cuban Ambassador**

THE Government of Cuba has, with the concurrence of the Government of Ceylon, decided to appoint His Excellency Mr. Eugenio Soler Alonso, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Cuba in India, concurrently as their first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Ceylon.

Mr. Alonso was born in Havana on 13th December, 1917. He studied in Champagnat College, Cuba, and in the University of Columbia, United States of America. He is a Professional Journalist.

From 1946-1951 and from 1952-1959, he held office in United Nations Organisations. He was Director, United Nations Information Centre, New Delhi; Head of the Central Service, Division of Radio; and Head of the Latin American Service, Office of Information. He was later Sub-Director of the Division of Foreign Affairs and Assessor of Public Relations of President, Dr. Carlos Prior Socarras.

Mr. Alonso, who is married, is at present Ambassador of Cuba in India.



# CEYLON TODAY

		<i>Local</i>	<i>Foreign</i>
		Rs. c.	
Annual Subscription inclusive of Postage	..	7 50	.. 15s.
Price per copy	.. ..	0 50	.. —
Postage	.. ..	0 10	.. —

Apply to—

The Superintendent, Government Publications Bureau,  
Galle Face Secretariat, Colombo 1



Printed at the  
Government Press, Ceylon