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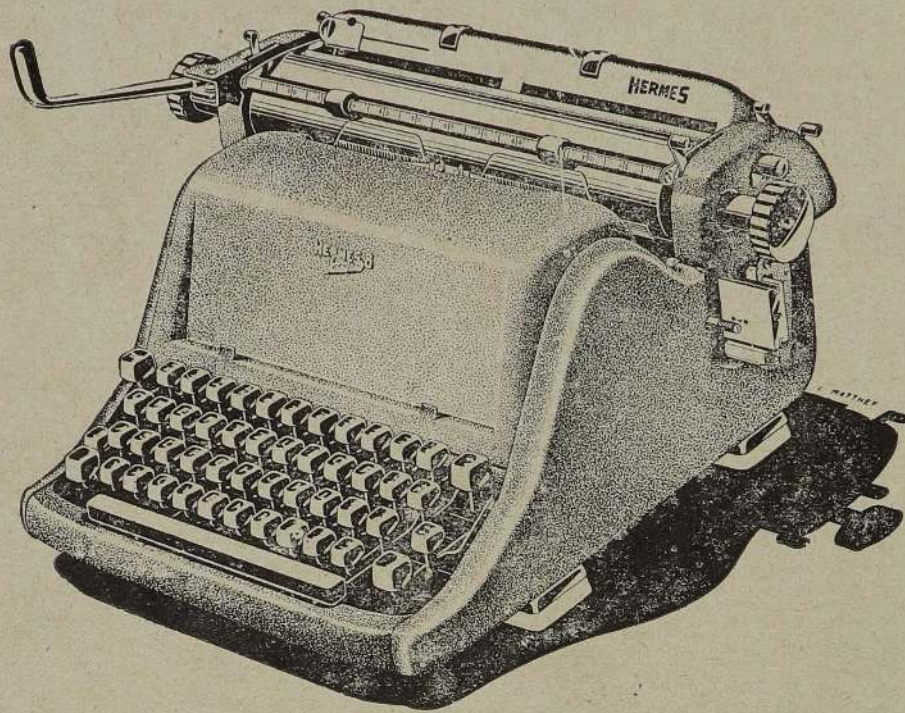
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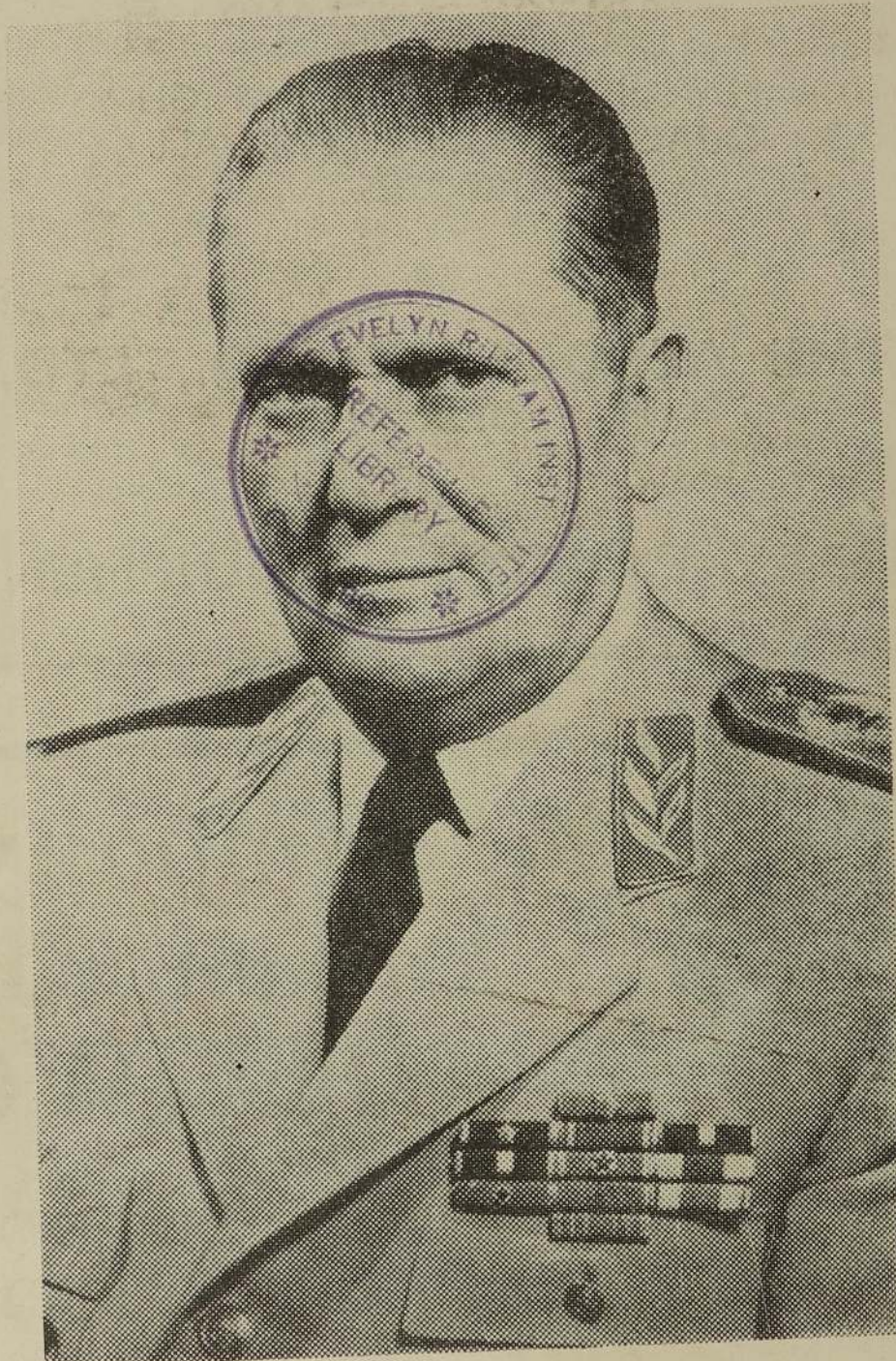
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## SOCIALIST LEADER TO VISIT CEYLON



One of the most colourful personalities thrown up by World War II, Marshal Tito, President of Yugoslavia, will be visiting Ceylon a fortnight hence.

The Balkan leader has created a place for himself in history by blazing a trail of his own to socialism. He and his wife have been visiting Indonesia, where they have been received with popular enthusiasm.



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## 1959 A TESTING TIME

WITH travel restricted and poor homes plunged in darkness by the strike of Shell oilmen, and less money in circulation on account of the bank strike, the new year dawned gloomily indeed for many people. A comforting feeling is that things were far worse at the beginning of the past year, when floods caused widespread damage and suffering.

\* \* \* \*

WHERE aid from many nations helped relieve the distress attendant on the floods, and rehabilitation of the ravaged areas, recovery from the effects of the strikes, it is necessary to remember, is entirely a domestic responsibility. The oil strike actually meant temporary inconvenience to most people, but the full impact of the bank strike, especially in the way of setback to industry and trade, has probably yet to be felt.

\* \* \* \*

THERE is therefore every reason for the qualified optimism expressed by the Prime Minister in his new year message to the nation. In contrast to the buoyancy of spirit engendered by the MEP coming into power is the disquiet prevailing in the country as one crisis succeeds another.

A hopeful factor for the future is the Prime Minister's acknowledgment of the shortcomings of the Government. That every effort will be made to remedy them is, we trust, a serious undertaking and not a mere conventional statement on his part.

\* \* \* \*

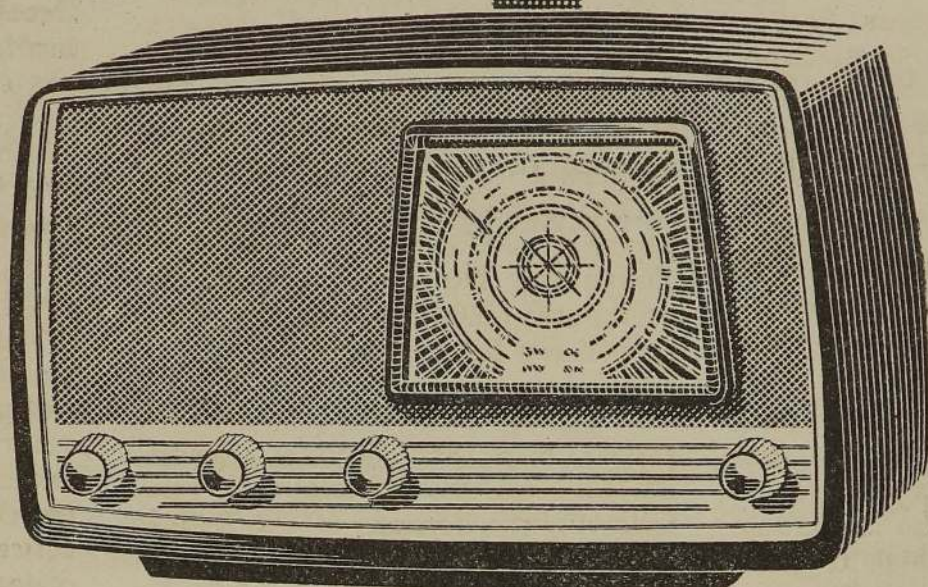
IT is no doubt difficult to erase from memory the violence and hatred that flared up in the middle of 1958. To the extent the Government is able to reconcile differences and restore national unity depends the success of its political and economic programme.

The new year will, it is clear, be a testing time for the country, calling for the greatest measure of understanding between all sections of the people in the common interest.

THE EDITOR.



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# MATTERS OF MOMENT

By BRUTUS

"WITH a reasonable measure of optimism," the Prime Minister has wished the nation a happy and prosperous new year.

In his message Mr. Bandaranaike said: "I hope at least to establish a general trend towards a socialist state in the life of the present Parliament, so that a reversion to reaction does not become possible in the future. He declared his guiding principles to be "the safeguarding and protection of the legitimate rights of the majority while extending justice and fairplay to the minorities, in order that all may live together in friendship as fellow-citizens of one country."

"I am not saying for one moment," he added, "that the Government has no faults or defects. I am humble enough to be conscious of our shortcomings, which it shall be our duty to make every effort to remedy. I think I am not unduly optimistic in hoping that the new year will be better than the last, that the difficulties and troubles through which we passed during the last year will at least be greatly reduced in the coming year, and this in turn will enable us to progress more rapidly and efficiently with the vital economic and other problems that face us."

\* \* \*

NEW Year's Day was not a public holiday this year under the new holidays law, which came into force on New Year's Eve, and Government servants were at their desks for the first time since the British occupation. Christians availed themselves of leave.

Private establishments, however, followed tradition by giving their employees a holiday, although New Year's day is not a statutory holiday in the private sector either. New Year's eve revelry in the hotels and night resorts, therefore, drew crowds, although provincial residents were fewer in number on account of the petrol strike.

Newspaper offices were also closed on New Year's Day.

\* \* \*

NEW Year's Day was the first anniversary of the nationalization of road passenger transport and the Transport Board received congratulations on the measure of

success it has achieved. In a statement the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Vere de Mel, claimed that apart from running the services without a day's breakdown in any of the main routes, services generally have improved almost beyond recognition, with the linking up of services between the north and south in Colombo and Kandy and other places, fast express services between principal towns, and week-end tours.

During the year the Board acquired a total of 1,147 chassis and buses—386 chassis and 336 new buses and 234 used buses (160 double decker) from abroad and the rest locally.

\* \* \*

CEYLON'S first Rhodes scholar will go to Oxford this year, following the decision of the Rhodes Trustees to establish five new scholarships for Commonwealth countries or regions which have recently become or about to become self-government. These are Ceylon, Ghana, the Malayan region (Malaya, Singapore, Brunei, North Borneo and Sarawak), Nigeria and the Caribbean region (the Caribbean Federation, British Guiana, British Honduras and the Bahamas but excluding Jamaica, which enjoys a

Rhodes scholarship of its own under the founder's will).

Owing to the exceptional pressure on Oxford University expected over the next few years, say the Trustees, it will not be practicable to bring all the new scholarships into existence at the same time. They accordingly propose to establish the Ceylon scholarship first, the first Ceylonese scholar going into residence next October, and in successive years the scholarship from Ghana, Malaya, and the Caribbean. One scholar from each of the new constituencies will be in residence at any given time and elections will consequently be held every third year.

\* \* \*

ON his way to Singapore to assume duties as Chief Justice of the colony, Sir Alan Rose, who held similar office in Ceylon, stepped ashore at Colombo on January 2nd, and called on the Governor-General, the Prime Minister and the Chief Justice. He met some of his former colleagues on the Bench and a few leading members of the Bar at an informal party given by Mr. G. P. A. de Silva, Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, at his residence.

\* \* \*

AT the annual meeting of Brooke Bond & Co., Ltd., in London, the Chairman, Mr. John Brooke, reported another record year of sales of packet teas. Most notable



—Times

New Year festivities in progress at the Grand Oriental Hotel.



## MATTERS OF MOMENT

increases, he said, came from the UK and India. "Only Ceylon, beset by disastrous floods and political disturbances, suffered a set-back. Thanks to sound management and a loyal sales staff, our business in Ceylon has now completely recovered from these serious disruptions."

On the production side Mr. Brooke reported better crops than last year from its estates in Ceylon, including the Galaha Group.

\* \* \*

**L**IMITATION of the franchise at 18 to those who are employed and women who are married, was suggested by Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, President of the Buddhist Congress, at the fortieth session of the organization held in Anuradhapura. Mr. Kularatne has succeeded Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, Ambassador to Russia, who had been President for 19 years.

Mr. Kularatne said he felt the reduction of the voting age to 18 without any restriction was fraught with danger. A compromise such as he suggested would meet with the approval of the country.

Referring to the recommendation of the Buddhist Commission, which he said the M.E.P. accepted before the elections in 1956, that the grant-in-aid school system be abolished and in its place a state national educational system be established, Mr. Kularatne said the Congress regarded the decision of the Government in May, 1957, not to register any more grant-in-aid schools as the first step towards implementing of the recommendation. Accordingly the last session of the Congress asked the Government to, as the second step, take over to the state all grant-in-aid schools in which more than 51 per cent of the pupils were of religious denominations different from that of the management. The Congress had not been informed of any decision on this point or on the matter of a system of state national education. There was every reason to hope that by next year the problem would be finally settled to their satisfaction.

\* \* \*

**I**N a statement after the publication of Mr. Kularatne's address, the Minister of Education, Mr. W. Dahanayake, denied that the M.E.P. accepted the recommendations of the Buddhist Commission. He was one of the four who drafted and

finalised the M.E.P. manifesto, he said, and what it did say was that the M.E.P. "would support the recommendations of the Commission in general", signifying that the recommendations would be duly considered. He added: "It would have been the height of folly for the M.E.P. to have adopted *in toto* a large number of these far-reaching recommendations without careful consideration."

Mr. Dahanayake went on to assert that the state taking over assisted schools was not an issue at the last general election. It could be at a future election. As far as the Government was concerned, he said, it had not definitely committed itself on this question.

\* \* \*

**T**HE Japanese research vessel "Chosui Maru" is carrying out research, investigation of the fishing grounds around Ceylon, and study of the conditions of the fishing industry, under the Colombo Plan. The undertaking follows the visit early last year of a Japanese team of experts led by Mr. Liyama.

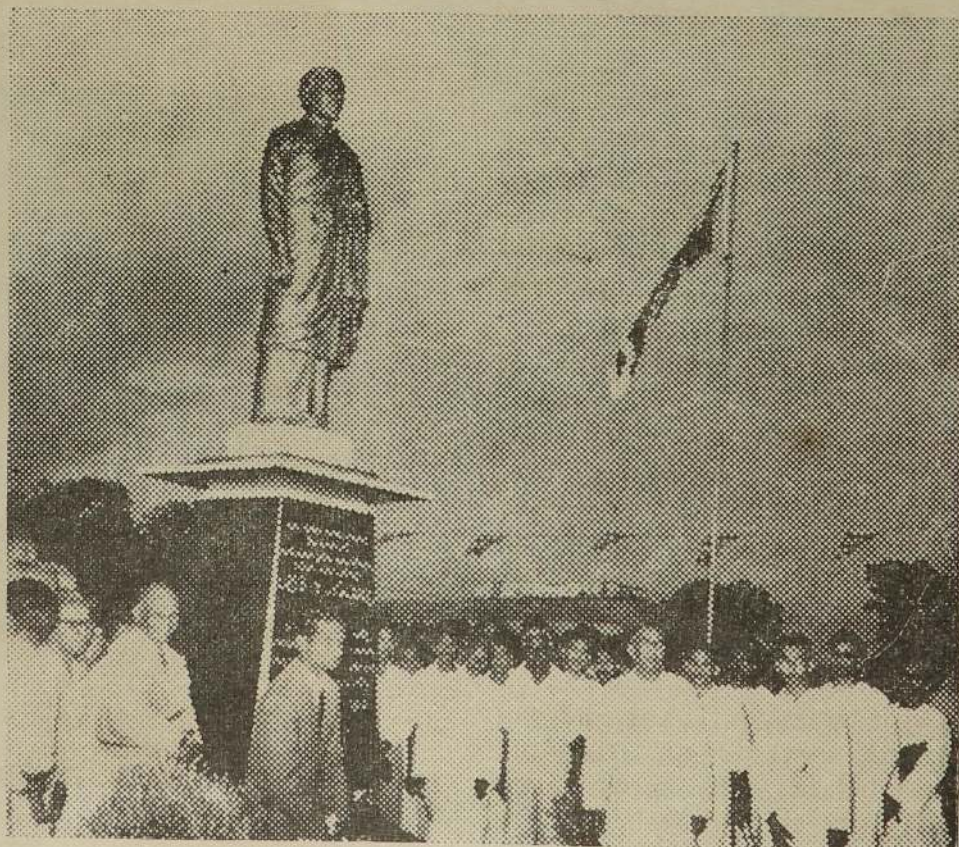
Officers of the Department of Fisheries are associated with the work and the Japanese officers have the use of the department's library

and museum for reference purposes. The base of operations of the ship is the Mutwal fishery harbour. The research is being carried out under the auspices of the International Fisheries Co-operative Organisation of Japan and is planned to be completed by the end of February.

\* \* \*

**C**EYLON has invited the fact-finding team of the International Atomic Energy Agency to visit the Island in the course of their tour of South-East Asia during this month and February. The team will probably consist of six members, each expert in one of the following fields: raw materials, research reactor programming and design, power reactors, uses of radio-isotopes in medicine, uses of radio-isotopes in agriculture, and training facilities, fellowships and Agency programmes.

The team will survey, within its competency, the nuclear energy programmes of the countries to which they are invited and advise them on their nuclear energy programmes. It will also advise the Agency on the best practical measures for assisting individual member states, and assist any country in formulating its request to the Agency for aid.



This statue of Walisinghe Harischandra, who initiated the move to preserve the Sacred City in Anuradhapura, was unveiled last week by the Minister of Cultural Affairs, Madan Jayaweera Kuruppu, at Anuradhapura.

—Times



## MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE year closed with the homicide figures reaching the figure ever recorded of 682. This exceeds the previous record of 617 in 1944 and the post-war record of 561 in 1947. The New Year opened with five cases of homicide.

In the meantime the commission on capital punishment continues to receive conflicting views on the restoration of the death penalty. It is significant, however, that high-ranking Police officers are in favour of the re-introduction of the penalty.

\* \* \*

A REPORT from London describes how millions of British television viewers had a close-up of a former Ceylon planter who subsequently became Britain's most famous prison governor. He is Mr. John Vidler, triple blue at Oxford, who was for ten years governor of Maidstone prison. Vidler started life as a planter but later joined the prison service in Kandy. He had to leave Ceylon forty years ago owing to ill-health.

Mr. Vidler was featured in the programme "This is your life" and was described as an "eccentric genius" of prison reform whose humanity stopped hundreds of men from coming back to jail. Among those who spoke of Mr. Vidler's remarkable qualities was Sir Herbert Dowbiggin, our former Inspector-General of Police.

\* \* \*

THE Chief Justice, Mr. H. H. Basnayake, is leading the Ceylon delegation to the world congress on the rule of law that is being held in Delhi. The congress is under the auspices of the International Commission of Jurists of The Hague.

Among the members of the delegation are Mr. T. S. Fernando, Puisne Judge, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Mr. L. G. Weeramantry, Mr. Sirimevan Amerasinghe and Mr. K. C. Nadarajah. The Chairman of the Congress is Mr. Vivian Bose of India.

\* \* \*

ON a visit to Ceylon is the eminent British orthopaedic surgeon, Sir Harry Platt. His programme included visits to hospitals and informal discussions and demonstrations.

Sir Harry's visit was under the auspices of the British Council.

THE Chemical Society of Ceylon has sponsored a fund for a memorial for Dr. A. Kandiah, professor of Chemistry of the University of Ceylon from 1933 to 1951. An endowment is to be created in the University of Ceylon for a post-graduate award in chemistry in memory of Dr. Kandiah.

The appeal for funds is over the names of Mr. E. B. Dissanaiké, Mr. A. A. Hoover, Mr. R. Sivaramalingam, Mr. M. U. S. Sultanbawa and Mr. G. A. C. Sirimanne, who will receive contributions at the Government Analyst's Department.

\* \* \*

THE Very Rev. Father Peter Pillai, Rector of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, returned to Ceylon on December 30. He underwent an operation in London and spent his convalescence on the continent.

\* \* \*

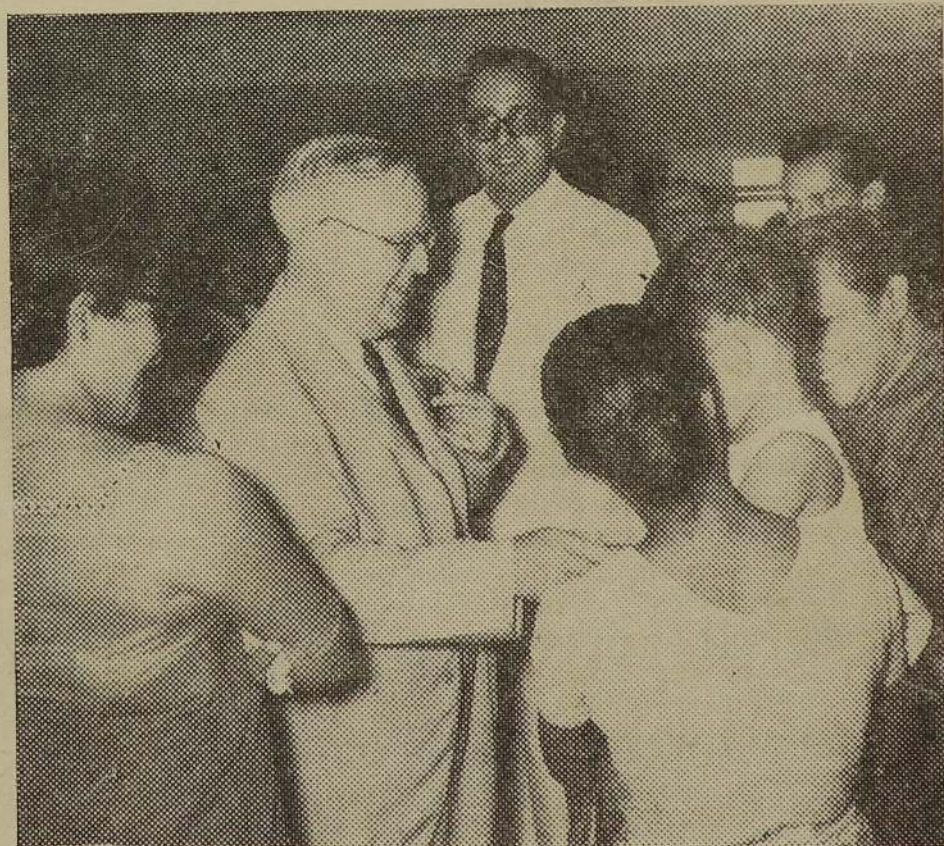
CEYLON was the venue of extensive clinical trials of a new synthetic drug claimed to be extremely effective against hookworm infection

announced recently by the British Wellcome Foundation. The trials were carried out early in 1958 and the Foundation details the dramatic results obtained by treating a group of 20 debilitated children with the new drug. Results achieved by the new drug which has been named "Alcopar," has given rise to the claim by the Wellcome Foundation that this is the first major advance in the treatment of hookworm since Tetrachlorethylene in 1924.

\* \* \*

SIR Richard Aluwihare, Ceylon's High Commissioner in India, last month laid the foundation stone for a Buddhist pilgrims rest in New Delhi. Seven Buddhist monks from various South-Eastern countries chanted pirith on the occasion.

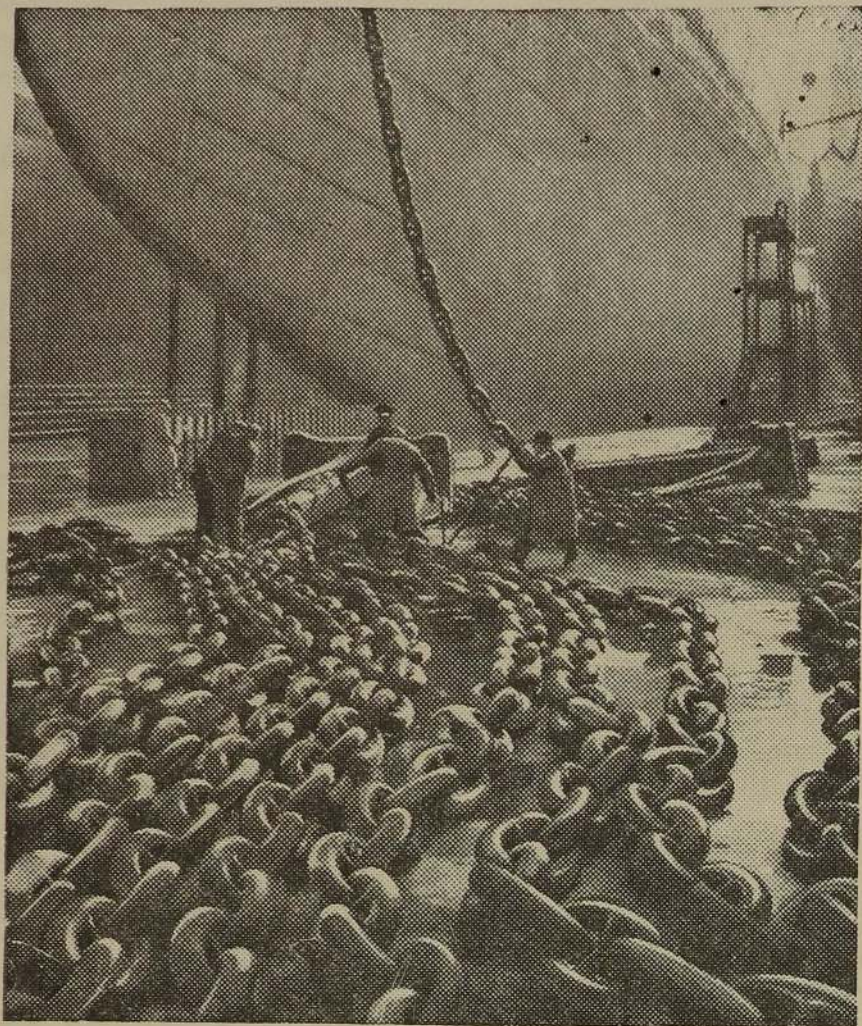
Sir Richard disclosed that the idea of centre for pilgrims to Buddhist places of worship in India was conceived by his predecessor, Sir Edwin Wijeyeratne. He thanked the Government and the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, for the donation of the site for the building.



—Times

Sir Harry Platt, the eminent British Orthopaedic Surgeon, greeted at the Ratmalana Airport by Professor A. C. E. Koch, Mr. Francis Silva and Mr. Rienzie Pieris, Orthopaedic Surgeons at the General Hospital, Colombo, on his arrival last Friday.





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# WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

By ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON

(Fortnightly Review Special)

THE other morning Queen Elizabeth II, seated at a telephone in the West of England city of Bristol, dialled the number of the Lord Provost of the Scottish capital of Edinburgh. Their conversation, arranged without the help of an intermediary telephone operator, was historic in that it inaugurated subscriber trunk dialling in the United Kingdom.

At present only 18,000 subscribers on the Bristol Central exchange enjoy this privilege. Two years hence about 40 other places will be similarly linked. London will come into the scheme by 1961. By the end of 1970 it is expected that three-quarters of all long-distance calls will be dialled by subscribers.

It will all be due to "Grace"—the name derives from the initial letters of Group Routing and Charging Equipment, the robot telephone operator devised by Britain's General Post Office engineers—and I feel it would be churlish not to accept it as an unmixed blessing.

\* \* \*

## Guides, Counsellors and Friends

PERSONALLY, though, I shall miss those human operators. Girls in the daytime and men during the long night watches—they were always there, disembodied guides, counsellors and friends, ready to console if the number was engaged or a sleep-drugged subscriber refused to answer, and exultantly happy when able to say they were "putting me through".

With "Grace" in charge, a sort of telephone boring ram, these genial, time-stealing preliminaries will be a thing of the past. I shall be able to destroy the peace of a distant subscriber, and he mine, anywhere in the country within a few seconds, by the dialling of ten digits on the bedside telephone.

The benefits, I am sure, will more than atone for the loss of the human touch. A saving of £15,000,000 a year is expected by automation. Automatic accounting will simplify charges, so that we can buy 12 seconds of talking time over 125 miles (about 200 kilometres) for a mere two pence. One outcome of this could be a new high-speed tele-

phone language, in basic English or French, cramming into 12 seconds what normally needs 12 minutes. Some women subscribers, one imagines, might need a little extra coaching.

In time we shall dial Commonwealth subscribers, too, with Canada first on the list. By the end of 1961 the round-the-world Commonwealth telephone cable will have its first link completed between Canada and the United Kingdom. At first our telephone talks with friends overseas will, of course, be through Commonwealth switchboard operators as friendly and obliging, I am sure, as the one I recently talked with from London by radio-telephone to Poona, India.

\* \* \*

## Still a Dream

POST Office experts tell us that Commonwealth subscriber dialling is still in the dream stage. But so, once, was the transatlantic telephone cable, now humming with talk day and night.

Getting away from dreams, there is warm satisfaction throughout the United Kingdom over the bright reality that Britain has just paid off the last instalment of the 700,000,000 dollar loan made by the Canadian Government in 1942. It is an obligation gratefully met, remembering as we do that Canada's help came at a crucial period in the war against Hitler when London's last reserves of gold and dollars had been pitched into the cauldron.

That our reserves are so high today, with confidence in Sterling re-established, might well have appeared a dream in the dark days of World War II. As the London "Daily Telegraph" puts it: "Never at any time did Canada fail to come to Britain's special aid throughout the whole course of the long common struggle for freedom."

\* \* \*

## Useful Object Lesson

IN standing by its obligations, the United Kingdom Government incidentally provides a useful object lesson for the thousands of private borrowers who have sent the hire purchase sales of automobiles soaring

in November. This was the first month of trading since hire purchase restrictions were removed at the end of October. More than 131,000 new contracts were made in November, and some car dealers report a 100 per cent rise in dealings.

Increase in road traffic is already marked, and the day draws ever nearer when most people will own at least one car.

That will be the time when, in this new age of high-speed motorways, the robot-controlled automobile may come into its own. It will be modelled, maybe, on the lines of Britain's new "driverless tractor" demonstrated the other day at Reading University farm. Governed by an underground magnetic wire, it turned corners, unloaded bales and obeyed traffic lights.

Nor would a popular, nuclear-driven car come as a surprise in Britain, home of the world's first commercial-scale nuclear power station at Calder Hall. West Germany, it has just been reported, is to order its first big-scale atomic power plant from Britain, an improved version of the Calder Hall type.

The Germans chose the British plant in preference to the United States type, which needs enriched uranium only purchasable in America. The natural uranium used in British atomic plants can be bought in the open market.

## THE ST. NINIAN'S ISLAND TREASURE

IN the summer of 1958 a very valuable find was made at St. Ninian's "Island", which is really a small peninsula off the west coast of Shetland. A party of students from Aberdeen University, under the direction of Professor A. C. O'Dell, made excavations in the remains of the mediaeval kirk. In the nave they found a hoard of eighth century silver of the finest workmanship. The items include sword pommels, belt ends, pennular brooches of silver gilt set with blue and brown glass, a spoon of a kind unexampled in the early Christian period, and other ornaments of the finest quality. They were probably made in the south of Scotland or in Northumbria, and the hoard is believed to have been buried as a result of an early Viking raid.



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# POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

By CROSS BENCHER

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the fact that a state of emergency was in force a series of strikes broke out at the end of December which went on well into the first week of January, exposing the weakness of the powers of the Government in settling industrial disputes.

Industry and trade were disrupted by the strike of workers at the Shell Company's oil installations and the employees of the banks. The major issue in the oil strike was the question of bonus, which the company at first refused to consider. They took up the position that if the industrial court, having examined the present wage structure of the company, was of the opinion that the wages are insufficient in relation to the cost of living or below the equivalent wages in comparable undertakings, then it would be prepared to raise wages rather than bridge the gap by the payment of a bonus. The Government, however, had yielded to a demand of the customary bonus by port workers, the cost to be shared between the former companies and the Port Cargo Corporation, and therefore urged that the principle of bonus payments should be conceded by the private sector.

\* \* \*

**N**EGOTIATIONS were deadlocked until a serious crisis arose when petrol had to be rationed in the provinces and a scarcity of kerosene oil even in the City created day-long queues at oil dealers, the two other oil companies, Stanvac and Caltex, being unable, despite their best efforts, to cope with the situation as more than half the needs of the country are supplied by Shell. Eventually at the intervention of the Prime Minister in consultation with the Governor-General the Shell Company accepted the principle enunciated by the Government and agreed to the question of the quantum of bonus as well as the other demands being referred to the industrial court.

\* \* \*

**T**HE strike of the bankmen, whose demands included a house allowance, was declared illegal as the dispute had been referred by the Minister of Labour to the industrial court and the union declined to go

before the court. Illegality only meant that the strikers were not allowed to display posters or engage in picketing. The banks were open only for the cashing of cheques, all other banking business coming to a standstill.

This strike was also called off after the intervention of the Prime Minister, with the institution of negotiations between the union and employers under his direction.

There are signs, however, of more strikes, of mercantile clerical and other white collar workers, also principally on the principle of bonus payments, and of bus workers.



—Times

Mr. P. de S. Kularatne

**T**HE proposed lowering of the voting age to 18 continues to be a subject of controversy, but advocates of the *status quo* appear to be in a minority. Suggestions for modification have come from two significant quarters. The President of the Buddhist Congress, Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, who is perhaps best known as the builder of modern Ananda College, has suggested that voters at 18 be only males who are employed and women who are married.

The Chief Government Whip, Mr. J. C. W. Munasinha, who is a staunch Roman Catholic but not necessarily a spokesman for the community, is in favour of the retention of the voting age at 21 but is

prepared to grant the vote to the 18 year olds exclusive of students. He was outvoted in the Government Parliamentary Group.

\* \* \*

**A**N intriguing situation has arisen by different interpretations being placed on the election manifesto of the MEP with regard to the Buddhist Commission's report, particularly as far as denomination schools are concerned. The Minister of Education, Mr. W. Dahanayake, contested the statement of Mr. Kularatne at the Buddhist Congress that the MEP was committed to a state system of education and declared that when it supported the recommendations of the Commission "in general" it only meant that it would consider them. He was going by the English version of the manifesto. Mr. Kularatne, however, quoted the Sinhalese manifesto as positively undertaking to support the Commission's recommendations. Was there any intention on the part of the MEP to cheat the Buddhist public and the Buddhist voter, he asked.

\* \* \*

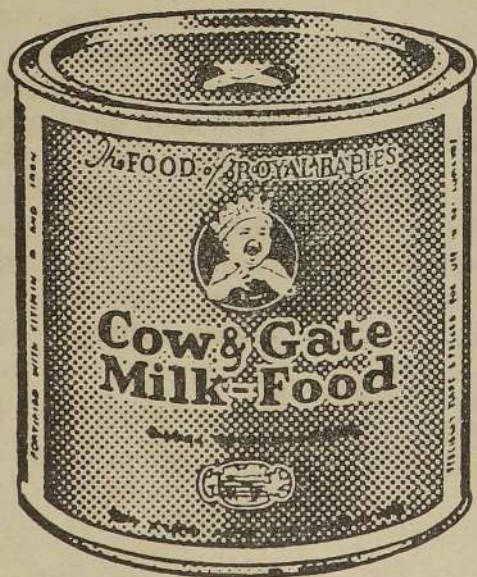
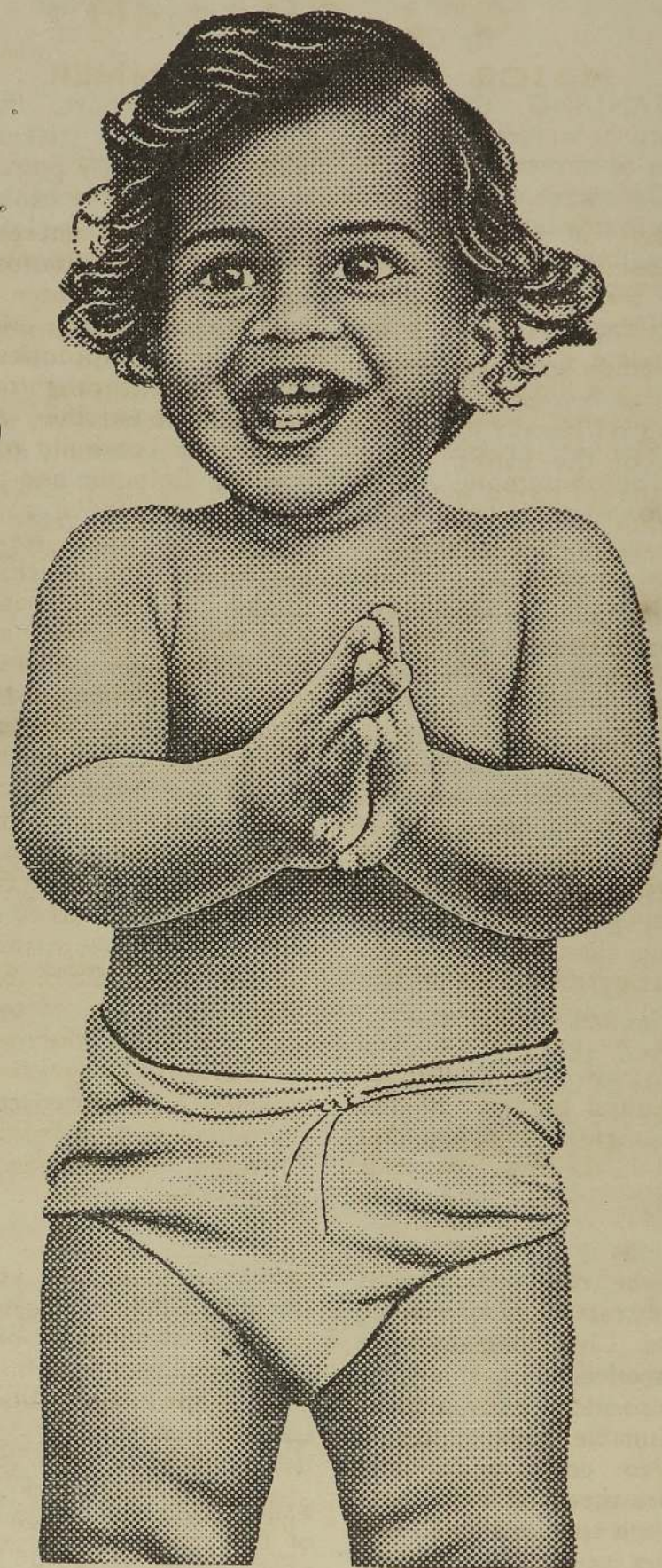
**A**N amusing side-issue, however, was a challenge by Mr. Dahanayake to Mr. Kularatne to contest him at Galle to settle the matter. In reply Mr. Kularatne stated that it would have been fairer for Mr. Dahanayake to suggest a contest in a neutral constituency. However, he issued a counter-challenge that, since it is possible that he might not live until the next general election, Mr. Dahanayake resign from Parliament and the two of them contest the Galle seat, but on this understanding: "that if I do not lose my deposit, as he says I would, Mr. Dahanayake quits politics for good. If I lose my deposit, I will quit my country altogether." In a parting shot Mr. Kularatne told Mr. Dahanayake that his education policy would ruin his party.

Mr. Dahanayake retorted that Mr. Kularatne has been longing to be Minister of Education and his resignation is just what Mr. Kularatne wants, but he must wait until the next elections to contest him on the assisted schools issue. Repeating that if Mr. Kularatne does not lose his deposit, he would retire from politics, Mr. Dahanayake also let fly a parting shot: "Mr. Kularatne cannot even win a village committee seat"!



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## **COW & GATE MILK FOOD**

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# A CEYLON PIONEER

## MAJOR THOMAS SKINNER

By H. LUDOWYKE

IN these days of specialisation, when academic and technical qualifications are insurmountable limiting factors and bars to the poor or the unfortunate with real ability or even genius, the life and example of Ceylon's pioneer road-maker, Major Thomas Skinner, is refreshingly stirring. His autobiography, published in London in 1891, tells us of how, as a boy of fourteen, he came to Trincomalee in 1818 to join his father, a naval officer, hoping to join the Navy. His father naturally wanted to send him back to school; but he made so good an impression on the authorities that he was given a commission in the Army. Within three years Governor Barnes spotted his talents and offered him a job on the roads, which he accepted. In 1829, at the age of twenty-five, he was appointed Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General. Starting at once to study the scientific duties of the Department, of which he was then quite ignorant, he worked on; and in four years' time was detailed to sketch the general features of the whole of the jungle and forest-clad land of the hill country. He was given fourteen weeks to do the job—alone.

Skinner says that he found the instructions rather embarrassing at first as his acquaintance with the theodolite was slight; he had never made a triangulation in his life. But he soon mastered that and other instruments and their use. Those two months were full of hardships for Skinner. He lived in a sort of tent made of talipot leaves which contained the barest necessaries—a camp-bed, a camp-table, and a chair. He spent two whole weeks of that time on the top of Adam's Peak, waiting for clear weather so that he could sketch in the surrounding country for his survey. Thus, working afterwards he was able, with the one-inch sketch map of the Kandyan Provinces and the general map of Ceylon which he produced, to open up the up-country and make it accessible to the first coffee planters, of whom he himself became one, as a side-line.

THIS man of enterprise, energy, ability and resource, who in his age between fourteen and eighteen had marched three military detachments from Trincomalee, *via* Kandy, to Colombo, through roadless jungle, having mapped the Kandyan hills, proceeded to build roads that connected Colombo and the coast with Kandy and opened up lines of communication that were the chief factors in the development of the Island. Skinner's roads run from Colombo to Chilaw and Puttalam (completed about 1826); from Peradeniya to Gampola, from Gampola to Pussellawa, from Gampola to Nuwara Eliya and the Ramboda Pass (finished in 1828); from Arippu to Anuradhapura (1832); from Colombo to Avisawella, Ratnapura, Haputale, and Badulla (1861); and to many more places up and down country. He had also a share in the construction of the Kandy-Colombo road (1821) when, as a boy of seventeen, who did not know the meaning of the expression "a gradient of one in twenty", he constructed the eleven-mile-long section from Ambanpitiya, through the Bellapany Valley, to Warakapola.

IN the forty-nine years of his life and work in Ceylon, from 1818 to 1867 when he retired and went to England, besides his expeditions and maps, Major Skinner built or supervised the building of 3,000 miles of roads, all of them good and sound to this day; he constructed numberless bridges, cut down the cost of the proposed railway line from Colombo to Kandy by fifty per cent, or Rs. 13 million, by boldly challenging estimates, rehabilitated the whole of the system of waterways bequeathed by the Dutch, and in addition, founded a large and influential family. He records that his up-country survey cost only Rs. 6,000. He records this with evident pride, as there was then such a thing as credit of the service and the department, which was thought of more than £.s.d. "A large portion of my pay and allowances," he says, "were spent in this survey, vastly more than was

drawn from the Treasury, as there was pride taken in the quantity of work produced with the smallest amount of public expenditure." At no time did Skinner receive more than £1,000 (Rs. 13,333) a year.

AFTER the opening of the Kandy road, the primary military objectives aimed at in its opening sank almost to insignificance when, with the great encouragement Barnes gave to planters, the plantation industry of the highlands started to develop. The growing and manufacture of sugar, indigo, coffee, tea and cacao which had been introduced as economic crops by the Dutch had been pursued with varying degrees of success in the low-country. Of them all, coffee was found to be the most suitable for the hills. Coffee had been found growing in Kandy and Hanguranketa in the vicinities of temples, introduced, it is said, from Arabia, for the sake of the white blossoms that were taken to shrines as offerings. The plant, disseminated by birds, flourished well also in the adjacent forests. It being found to be so suitable for the highlands, Jeronis de Silva, a native of Moratuwa who had migrated up-country as a contractor, purchased for £650 the King's Garden at Hanguranketa and the forest land adjoining it. So well had the coffee plant flourished, in a wild state, on that land, that after a trifling outlay on weeding and clearing, Jeronis de Silva was in possession of an extensive and very valuable ready-made coffee estate. Charles Henry de Soysa married Catherine de Silva, and their offspring are well known to the present generation as being not only wealthy but also public-spirited and philanthropic.

GOVERNOR BARNES himself opened out a coffee estate at Gannoruwa, near Peradeniya. Another was opened by Colonel Henry Bird at Sinhapitiya, in Gampola, another at Kundasale and another at Imbulpitiya. In 1834, Henry Bird, with his uncle, George Bird, opened land in Pussellawa, in Black Forest, so named from the dark foliage of the forest where Doona trees grew to a height of a hundred feet before branching. It was the success of the first clearing on Black Forest that led to the ultimate rush for land on which to grow coffee.

(Continued on page 31)



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# 1959 — PEERING INTO THE FUTURE

— By "SPHINX" —

IT was easy enough to look back on 1958, as I did in the last issue of the *Fortnightly Review*. It was all done with at the time, anyway. But dipping into the future and seeing a vision thereof, for even so limited a period as a year, is a different thing altogether, and I feel like saying, in the words of a song made popular by Doris Day: whatever will be, will be. *Que sero, sera*. But it would be no good for an article in this *Review*.

So I shall make an attempt, however inadequate, at what I hope time will prove to be some little intelligent guesswork. But it is not all pure guesswork. For instance, I have the word of a chairman of a district planters' association who forecast in the public prints that this year there will be exodus of as many as 90 European tea planters from the island. It seems a sound enough forecast.

\* \* \*

THERE is, of course, in almost any sphere of a great deal of uncertainty as to the future, and nowhere more than in planting circles. There is the talk of nationalization, for one thing. Even if nobody expects that to take place this year, there are more urgent fears. There is fear of devaluation, in spite of repeated official denials. There are doubts that they will be able, much longer, to send out their earnings freely.

The number of European planters is already depleted—from 684 in 1952 to 512 in 1956. With time of course it should be possible to replace European planters with qualified and experienced Ceylonese, but as many as 90 leaving in one batch, so to say, the position is different. And this just when plans for the replanting and rehabilitation of the tea industry will have begun to gather momentum.

\* \* \*

BUT it is not only in the planting industries that an exodus is likely to take place. In fact many months ago the Government was warned that many "non-nationals" with specialised skills and experience

(and not only non-nationals but even such nationals) would leave the Island on account of the new taxation proposals. The Prime Minister appealed to them not to make individual decisions till the tax proposals were finally settled.

Professor Kaldor, to whom the taxation scheme is attributed (many said his proposals have been distorted), is back in the Island at the time of writing taking a look at the plans outlined in the budget but there has been no indication that there will be a drastic modification of the plan, which alone is likely to satisfy the class of specialists who are preparing to leave the Island, just when any development plans that may be decided by the Government would need specialised persons to implement them.

\* \* \*

THAT brings me to the question of national planning and development. The Planning Council was established nearly two years ago. While it was not to be expected that they would produce a national development plan overnight, they have done nothing except submit in an interim plan (strictly they were only papers on planning). It is to be presumed, therefore, that in the course of this year some kind of overall plan, however incomplete or sketchy, would be placed before the country. It is too much to hope, however, that the Government will move so rapidly as to begin to implement any such plan in the course of the year.

And what about nationalization of foreign-owned estates, insurance companies, etc. My own guess is that it will not happen this year—the Government has said it will be the "last thing" it will do. The cry for nationalization has not been raised frequently of late and the Government is unlikely in the course of the year to do anything that might arouse the clamour again—till it is actually prepared to act. Its experience with the nationalization of the bus services and, more, the port, should have a salutary effect on any inclination for hasty nationalization

or what is almost as bad, talk of nationalization.

\* \* \*

THE year should show some improvement in the conditions in the port and the other nationalised service—public transport. Some steps taken towards the end of the year for improving the efficiency of the port, such as mechanisation of certain processes and the provision of more barges and lighters, etc., should produce some effect.

My guess is also that there will be some improvement in the conditions of work and employment of port labour; the strength of the trade unions should see to it, since the Port Corporation has had sufficient warning of the shape of things to come if discontent is left to simmer. But whether rivalry among trade unions in the port will be smoothed out in the course of the year is another matter. In fact it may well be that with the general elections approaching (as they would be if there were no postponement) trade union rivalry will become more bitter. In that case the efficiency and the reputation of the port of Colombo will not have increased in spite of more equipment, etc.

\* \* \*

IN spite of labour unrest, etc., there has been over the last few years a slight increase in the production of tea and rubber, etc., though far less than necessary even to keep pace with the increasing population. It is likely that this slight increase will be maintained, with the replanting schemes contributing. But how much improvement there will be in terms of export is difficult to say, particularly with regard to tea, the mainstay of Ceylon's economy.

Ceylon has already lost some of her tea markets and Ceylon tea was meeting with increased competition in European countries, last year. No vigorous and adequate measures have been taken to recover the markets or to meet competition and it should not be surprising if exports suffer somewhat.

Another factor which may have repercussions on trade (imports) is the unenviable record some Ceylonese importers had begun recently to earn for themselves by their business methods. There, too, little has been

(Continued on page 32)



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# ARMY TRAINING CENTRE AT DIYATALAWA

## A RECENT PASSING OUT PARADE

By B. H.

THAT Army Service should be regarded as a vocation rather than a career was the thought brought out by Brigadier A. M. Muttukumaru in his inspiring address to young Officers and recruits, at the newly established Army Training Centre, in Diyatalawa, after taking the Salute at the recent Passing Out Parade.

Navy, Army and Air Force were all well represented among the very large number of spectators that gathered to witness the historic event marking the passing out of the First Intake of young Officers and the twenty-second intake of recruits to the regular army, and to admire the precision with which they manoeuvred to the music of the Army Band, under the baton of Lieut. George Perry.

\* \* \*

THE Army Centre was later formally opened by the unveiling of a plaque by the Army Commander, who paid special tribute to Brigadier the Earl of Caithness who founded the original Army Recruit Training Depot, which this was to replace, and to Brigadier Reid, whose "brain-child" he claimed the new Centre really to be. All of those present at the unveiling ceremony were subsequently hospitably entertained in the various messes.

In his address, the Brigadier mentioned that out of 3,127 recruits who had been trained in Diyatalawa, one had already risen to officer's rank, another was a Warrant Officer, seven were now Staff Sergeants and fifty-two were Sergeants, besides a large number of other non-commissioned officers—proof, he maintained, of the excellence of their training and resulting devotion to duty, as evidenced during the 1953 Hartal and

throughout the regrettable disturbances in the past year.

\* \* \*

THE Army's behaviour under most difficult and trying conditions was held up as an example to the new recruits, of what loyalty and discipline could achieve. These two, said the Brigadier, were the qualities most to be insisted upon in army training, especially at this time, when disloyalty and indiscipline were eating into the vitals of the nation.

The Brigadier was received on arrival by Major B. J. H. Bahar, C.L.I., Commanding Officer, and Major J. F. Halangode, C.L.I., his second-in-command, Lieut. B. de Silva, C.L.I., Adjutant and Q.M., was also in attendance, and among those present were two British officers newly seconded to the Ceylon Army, Capt. J. G. Williams of the Royal Artillery and Capt. A. G. Ingram, Highland Light Infantry. Associated with the Brigadier on the dais were two of the three previous Commanding Officers of the A.R. T.D. These were Lieut.-Col. R. D. Jayetilleke, S.R., and Major S. D. D. Samarasinghe, S.R. Lieut.-Col. Udu-gama, C.L.I., was unable to be present due to other onerous duties.

\* \* \*

CAPT. H. V. Athukorale, C.L.I., handled the parade most efficiently, the four platoons, whose performance awaked spontaneous applause from the onlookers, being led by Lieutenants D. U. Weerasinghe, C. A., S. M. A. Jayawardene, C.L.I., E. E. P. Joseph, C.L.I., and N. D. H. A. B. Silva, C.L.I.

It was interesting to note that the smart young Sergeant who deputised for Company Sergeant Major on Parade (C. S. M. Tissera having been rushed to hospital as an appendix case) was none other than Sergeant S. Gnanasekeram, winner of the prize awarded for the best recruit at the Passing Out of the very first intake of recruits in 1950.

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The Courses which can now be taken at the Diyatalawa Army Training Centre are as follows :—

For Recruits, Potential Drill and Weapon Training, Instructor Courses, Potential NCO Courses, Basic Army Training and Methods of Instruction.

For Officers, Cadet Pre-Sandhurst Training, Young Officers Training, Junior Officers' Tactics, Pre-staff College Courses, Signal Training, Senior Officers' Courses, and Training of Volunteer Officers and NCO's.

## AMERICA REGAINS THE DAVIS CUP

AMERICA regained possession of the Davis Cup when they defeated the holders, Australia, in the challenge round played at Brisbane in the last week of December. Australia were generally considered favourites with Ashley Cooper, Wimbledon, American and Australian champion and Mal Anderson representing the holders, but contrary to expectations the visitors with 22-year-old Alejandro Olmedo, the Peruvian star, showing form that was a revelation to those who were fortunate to witness his brilliant exhibitions in all three matches he figured in, America gained a slashing victory. In his first match he vanquished Mal Anderson and followed it up by winning the doubles with Ham Richardson and finally defeating Ashley Cooper in a memorable game by three sets to one—6-3, 6-4, 6-8, 6-4.

Olmedo, who was hailed as a coming champion in his early teens, left Peru for the United States when he was 15. He has lived in Los Angeles since 1954 and has been a student at Southern California University since 1956. There was much opposition in American lawn tennis circles to his inclusion in the United States team. But Olmedo, who was qualified under the residential rule, was determined to retain his Peruvian nationality "even if it meant missing the chance of playing Davis Cup tennis." He told reporters after his great win over Cooper that he felt proud to win the Cup for America, particularly as he also brought honour to Peru. He hoped to help in the defence of the Davis Cup next year as it was unlikely that Peru would compete in the contest.



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# THE NEW YEAR—FROM A WOMAN'S ANGLE

By "TAMARA"

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

WHATEVER we may be—Buddhist, Christian, Hindu or Muslim, to all of us January 1st has a special significance. I have heard people say this is not our new year, why should it have any significance for us? Yet everyone observes it in some way or other. To Christians it has a greater meaning than to others because they celebrate the Circumcision of Christ. Whatever it may be, all the world over it is the day that is accepted as the first day of the New Year.

\* \* \*

DIFFERENT people celebrate it in different ways. To many it is a time for fun and gaiety. To women it is an opportunity for displaying their smartest outfits. The present trend is to give as much encouragement to the merry-maker as possible. Hotels take full advantage and make as much money in one month as they do in all the other eleven months. Some people spend the money, others make it. It's fun and jollity everywhere and people become sober only later in the month when they get into difficulties with outstanding bills and no money to pay them. Most people spend their entire salaries and allowances between Christmas and New Year hoping for the best or trusting to luck that some money will turn up in January! And yet when the New Year comes round again, all difficulties are forgotten and everybody spends as much as before.

\* \* \*

A FEW people may stop to think of more sober things. Some churches arrange for Watch Night Services where devout Christians can see the New Year in. It is strange, you may think, but none the less it is true that most churches are packed at these Services. Amongst the Hindus and Buddhists too there are many who go to the Temples to make their offerings.

I hold no brief for the merry-makers or the sober people who think of more serious things; at different times I have belonged to one category or the other as the mood took me. Today there is a

tendency to have false values, to stress unimportant things and to relegate the more important things to a second or even third place.

\* \* \*

CEYLON, which has come to be known as the home of Buddhism, has in the past few years gone contrary to the teachings of the Buddha—what love or peace is there in a country that has had a record number of homicides during the year that is just passed? More than at any other time this year that has just begun, should make us think. Buddhist, Christians, Hindus or Muslims, all of us are taught the doctrines of non-violence and love. It is because people have forgotten or gone far away from these teachings that our land has become such an unpleasant place to live in.

\* \* \*

THE beginning of the year is first the right time to take stock of ourselves—to think of all the sins of omission and commission. Most people take the opportunity to make new resolutions but there are generally forgotten before the year is half over. A strange thing about resolutions is that people always resolve to *do* something, but seldom do they resolve *not* to do. I wonder why? Is it because it has a negative first about it? Would it be stronger or would it have more "body" if one said I will, rather than I will not?

Lately I have given this matter much thought, and the more I ponder on it, the more I begin to think that it is much more difficult to say "I will not" than "I will."

Looking back over 1958, personally where I am concerned, it has been one of the most "difficult" years for me. By difficult I mean many things—troubles, sicknesses, disappointments, and yet I cannot honestly say that it has had no bright patches. Talking to a friend who likes to call himself a pocket astrologer, I found that I am not a solitary exception. According to him everybody has had a bad patch last year. In a way this gives you some comfort, I mean not the fact that other

people have had bad luck, but your having had it, because like the silver lining in the cloud, one can look forward to a better year.

\* \* \*

I HAVE gone over in my mind a number of things which I might resolve *not* to do, but strange to confess, I cannot honestly say I will not do so and so, because I am not at all sure that I will not do it again this year. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak and so it is with most of us.

---

## PEOPLE

MISS Ethel (Phil) Deacon, secretary of the European Association of Ceylon since 1951, was awarded the MBE in the New Year Honours List of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Miss Deacon came out to Ceylon in 1944 as an officer in the WRNS and has devoted a great deal of her time to voluntary work. She took a leading part in the formation of the Ceylon Road Federation and was Hony. Secretary of the Colombo Division of the Red Cross Society, and is Hony. Secretary of the Ceylon Society for the Prevention of Accidents. She is also on the council of the Girls' Friendly Society and Hony. Secretary of the War Charities Fund (Ceylon).

\* \* \*

THE New Year Honours List also announced the promotion of Col. C. A. H. P. Jayawardena to Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the appointment of Mr. Osmund de Silva, Inspector-General of Police, as Associate Commander (Brother).

\* \* \*

DR. Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana, who was scheduled to visit Ceylon in the course of his good-will tour in south-east Asia informed the Ceylon Government last week that he was unable to make the visit as his presence was urgently needed in Ghana on account of political developments. He was in India when he cut short his tour to return to Ghana.

\* \* \*

MR. A. W. Warburton-Gray, the veteran Ceylon planter, has recently settled down in Burgess Hill, Sussex. Earlier he had spent fourteen months at Knysna in South Africa.



## PEOPLE

SIR Herbert Dowbiggin, C.M.G., Ceylon's former Inspector-General of Police, who celebrated his seventy-eighth birthday on Boxing Day, continues to take a lively interest in Ceylon. He is a staunch friend of this Journal and in his latest remembrance of *The Fortnightly Review* writes to congratulate us on our efforts during the last decade, and sends us his best wishes for 1959. Thank you, Sir Herbert!

\* \* \*

AMONG several other former Ceylon residents who sent Christmas greetings to this Journal and good wishes for the New Year were Sir Henry Moore, Ceylon's first Governor-General, Sir William Murphy, formerly of the Ceylon Civil Service and later Governor of the Bahamas, West Indies, Sir John Howard, Ceylon's former Chief Justice, Mr. W. T. Greswell and Mr. P. R. May—all good friends of the *Fortnightly*.

\* \* \*

THE Minister of Cultural Affairs and Local Government, Mr. Jayawæra Kuruppu, on December 27th, at Anuradhapura, unveiled a statue of Walsinghe Harischandra, who initiated at the turn of the century, the restoration of the sacred city, which is now an accomplished fact.

He was a follower of the Anagarika Dharmapala and organized with the

campaign for the restoration of Mihintale vihare and the Ruwanwelisaya dagoba in Anuradhapura.

\* \* \*

MR. G. Ross-Bell, former Managing Director of Messrs. J. H. Vavasseur & Co., Ltd., writing to us recently from "Meadowtop", Kingsley Green, W. Haslemere, Surrey, says:

"At this season of the year one is impelled to write old friends and although I have intended writing much earlier, the opportunity always seemed to elude me, chiefly because we have not had our own



Mr. G. Ross-Bell

home. During the first years after our return to England, all our time has been devoted to visiting possible houses in various districts of Sussex, Hampshire and Surrey. We have at

last been successful and we are now settled in our own home here at Kingsley Green, a village 2½ miles over the Surrey/Sussex border from Haslemere and near several other retired Ceylon friends.

"As usual I always look forward with keen interest to the arrival of the *Fortnightly Review* which was much valued by me when I was in Ceylon but which now supplies such a wonderful link with Ceylon, its affairs and its people to one who has retired to this country.

I wish you and the *Fortnightly Review* everything that is good during the Christmas season and all through the coming years."

\* \* \*

COL. Victor Thompson, former Chief of the Salvation Army in Ceylon, writes to us as follows:—

"When I wrote you recently, I was full of arrangements in connection with the visit of General and Mrs. Wilfred Kitching, but while happy beyond all degree that everything worked out so wonderfully in connection with such, nevertheless things were marred somewhat, because on the day before they left for South Africa, the General informed me that I would be farewelling from Rhodesia.

The news came as a real shock, for we have many important projects in hand, with plans for others and if only we could have stayed another year, it would have made all the difference.

\* \* \*

"WE have thoroughly enjoyed our stay in Rhodesia, as in Ceylon, and regret having to go, specially as we have at the moment no knowledge as to our next assignment. Quite a few think we shall be posted in London, but I have a very open mind, knowing full well that the more one wants a thing the less likely one is to have such.

Col. and Mrs. Thompson spent Christmas in London, with their two daughters.

\* \* \*

THE death is reported in Scotland, on Christmas day, of Ethel, widow of Col. J. Maxwell Johnstone, who after retiring from planting spent some years in Kandy in the thirties and with whose name is associated the promotion of polo in Ceylon.

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## PEOPLE

WE regret to record the death of a former minister of St. Andrew's Scots Kirk, Colombo, the Rev. J. G. W. Hendrie, who served the charge for sixteen years from 1933 to 1949. He made a notable contribution to the Christian Church in Ceylon and was interested in many charitable organisations.

Mr. Hendrie's name will long be remembered for the fine service he rendered to the forces stationed in Ceylon during the war years, and there are many service people who remember him with gratitude. He is survived by his widow and a daughter. A memorial service was held in the Scots Kirk on Sunday, December 28th, at 9.30 a.m.

\* \* \*

MR. L. B. Jayasena, Secretary of the Ceylon Estate Staffs Union, has retired after 32 years with the Union in various capacities, including President. He was a member of the Senate for sometime.

Mr. Jayasena has been described as the architect of the joint industrial council representing employers and employees which regulates the terms and conditions of employment of subordinate staffs of estates. The agreements reached by the council have been recognised by the Government.

\* \* \*

MR. Arthur Fernando, son of the late Mr. Sidney E. Fernando and Mrs. Mira Fernando of Frederica Road, Wellawatte, and formerly on the Staff of the Airport at Ratmalana, in an interesting letter to us from Long Beach, California, U.S.A., on the 17th December, gives us the following details of his work in America since he left Ceylon four years ago :—

"I have acquired further qualifications in the fields of aeronautical engineering, flying and air transportation management. You probably heard that I obtained a scholarship from the Douglas Aircraft Co. for further study at the University of California at Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.). I now work at the Douglas Long Beach facility in the Engineering Division.

"I obtained the U.S. Commercial Pilot Rating with a record high of 94% in the final examination. In addition to the many other Aero-Engineering and Flying Licences I

hold in the U.S., India and Ceylon, I am today a fully qualified member of Aircraft Owners' and Pilots' Association. (The qualification is M.A.O.P.A.).

\* \* \*

THE funeral of Mr. E. L. F. de Soysa, the doyen of the Ceylon turf, took place at Holy Emmanuel Church burial ground, Moratuwa, and was largely attended, the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, being present and acting as a Pall-bearer.

The funeral procession which arrived from Colombo, passed through the premises of Prince and Princess of Wales' Colleges. The cadets and girl guides walked in front of the hearse, while the staffs and students lined the route. From the church gate to the church the coffin was borne by prominent residents of Moratuwa.

The Right Rev. Lakdasa de Mel, Bishop of Kurunegala, officiated at the church and at the graveside, assisted by the Ven. Harold de Soysa, Archdeacon of Colombo (a nephew of the deceased), Rev. T. C. J. Peiris, Rev. Harry Perera, Rev. F. R. E. Mendis, Rev. George A. Wijeysekera, Rev. A. Dias Abeyasinghe and Rev. Patrick Abeywardene.

A SCHOLARSHIP grant to Mr. Lalth Athulathmudali, first Ceylonese to be elected President of the Oxford Union whose father died recently, has been recommended by the Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike. The scholarship is to enable Mr. Athulathmudali, who is due to take the Bachelor of Civil Laws degree examination in June, 1960, and is reading for the Bar Finals in April next, to continue his studies in the U.K.

\* \* \*

CAPT. A. P. R. David of the Ceylon Light Infantry, who returned to Ceylon recently from Lebanon, where he was a United Nations Military observer, has left for a course of training at the School of Infantry, Warminster. On his return he will be appointed to the Army Training Centre at Diyatalawa.

\* \* \*

MR. Ray de Zilwa, who retired at 41 as Deputy Director of Fisheries, has left Ceylon with his wife to settle down in New Zealand, Son of St. L. H. de Zilwa, Headmaster of the Farm School, Peradeniya, he was educated at Trinity and distinguished himself at rugger, turning out for the C.R.F.C. and playing for Ceylon. He took a keen interest in scouting and led the Ceylon contingent to the international jamboree held in Canada recently.

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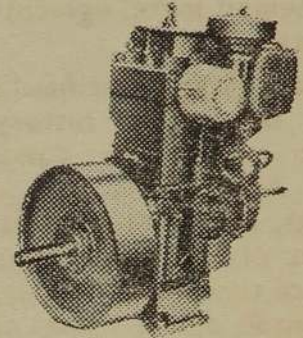




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# WHO OWNS THE SKY

By NICHOLAS VICHNEY

(Fortnightly Review Special)

THE progress of science and technology is opening up possibilities that in the recent past would have seemed mere figments of the imagination.

The launching of artificial satellites already belongs to history; now, interest has turned towards the moon. According to qualified scientists, the other planets are still well out of reach, but it is only a matter of time—and money—before a man-made device makes the journey. We can console ourselves without too much difficulty, however, for having to wait some time before exploring the solar system. Is there not talk of offering human beings the novel experience of gravitating about our globe?

Scientists and technicians are not the only ones concerned with this extraordinary broadening of our field of action. Legal experts are aware that they, too, will have problems to solve. As everyone knows, the artificial satellites finally disintegrate as a result of friction. When they enter the denser levels of the atmosphere, they rapidly break into several incandescent fragments. Who would be responsible for damages—including loss of human life—resulting from their falling to Earth?

\* \* \*

THE first thought that occurs to one is that such responsibility should lie with the state that launched the satellite. In order for a state to be responsible, there would have to be a violation of actual law, but such violation is not possible, because there is no legal text governing the launching of satellites. Since it is not possible to liken the fall of a satellite to the fall of an object from an airplane, we have to recognize that there is no legal provision governing such a phenomenon.

The objection may be raised that, by definition, a circumstance of this kind cannot be other than accidental and that there is no need to give it too much attention. But there is a more serious possibility; namely that, in revolving about the earth, satellites pass again and again over territories not subject to the power that launched them. Now, accord-

ing to the international agreement signed in Chicago on October 13, 1919, and the later agreement of December 2, 1944, the sovereignty of a state extends to the "atmospheric space" above its territory. What is the altitude of the atmosphere? This was not indicated in Chicago. A state may argue from the fact that satellites in the vicinity of the perigee of their orbits—the perigee is, as a general rule, at an altitude of about 150 miles—are in the zone over which that state has sovereignty and may thus forbid their passage over its territory.

Indeed, if it is able to do so, it may even bring them down. How would the inevitable dispute be settled, in view of the fact that the country which launched the satellite might very well challenge application of the Chicago agreement to a machine which the Chicago agreement was obviously not intended to cover?

\* \* \*

WORSE still: the first man to set foot on the moon might very well take possession of it in the name of his government. Such an event would cause quite an uproar. . . . the transfer to our natural satellite of the "right of the first occupant" would be widely challenged. Furthermore, an assertion is not sufficient to create a right; repetition and general consent are necessary to create a custom. International negotiations would probably be opened, but, in the absence of any legal text, the occupying power would necessarily be in a strong position quite incompatible with the quest for a fair solution.

Fortunately, none of these problems arises for the time being. The debris of Sputnik I seems to have scattered over an uninhabited area, and the remnants of Sputnik II fell into the sea. The revolving of the satellites about the planet has given rise to no difficulties, since they were launched within the framework of the International Geophysical Year and all the participants agreed to this series of experiments. If the Geophysical Year had not been extended, it would have been necessary to define the status of satellites by the end of 1958. As for the

problem raised by a possible annexation of the moon, it does not yet appear to be very urgent.

But are we to wait until we are confronted with a situation before attempting to consider ways and means of solving it? Legal experts are already studying the matter. At the special space conference in The Hague last August, held under the auspices of the International Astronautical Federation, it was decided that the question should be laid before the UN. Moreover, the United States and the U.S.S.R. were of the same opinion.

\* \* \*

ONE does not have to be a legal expert to realize that there are only two solutions to the problem of drafting a law governing space: either one adapts to space the rules obtaining on Earth, or one lays the basis for an entirely new legal system.

As far as the latter is concerned, space might be governed like the high seas, which belong to nobody. But in order to take full advantage of this attractive principle, we must find an earthly counterpart of the artificial satellite and the planet. It is impossible to regard the heavenly bodies as other than floating islands! And even if one did, an international agreement would be necessary in order to define their status. . . . for just as floating islands can interfere with the movement of vessels, so a time may come when it will be necessary to regulate the use of satellites. In fact, even now there is talk of reserving a wavelength for them.


Those in favour of a new legal system argue that "earthly" jurisdiction is based on well-defined concepts of distance, time and weight, notions which, when applied to space, have a very different content and even lose their meaning. Furthermore, this jurisdiction is based on concepts such as sovereignty and property, which it is hard to imagine being transposed to the realm of space.

Obviously, we must still know the altitude to which classical air law is to be applied.

Any number of solutions have been proposed by various specialists. For example, Mr. Kroell thinks that it may be possible to define this altitude as the geometric locus of the points at which the attraction of the earth is balanced by that of the sun—40 earth rays, in his view.

(To be continued)





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# FORCE THAT CAN'T BE SEEN

By LEONARD RULE

(Fortnightly Review Special)

WHEN wind blows through trees and over grasses, or water, its effects and strength can be seen although it is itself invisible. Of course, we all know that wind is simply a movement of the air we breathe. We know it can be used to drive boats and ships—even if it is a bit uncertain. It's not so long since windmills for grinding corn were a common sight in Europe, although most of them have now been replaced by mills using power such as electricity. Which brings me to the thing I want to talk about: electricity. That is another natural force which we can't see, but of which we can see the effects. We can press a button to switch on the light, and we know that electricity is heating a wire, making it so hot that it will light a room, or a street for that matter. But although scientists can tell us all about wind and the gases that make up the air, and where winds come from and where they go, no one can yet tell us what electricity really is. We know it is present in most things on earth—we can see one of its more spectacular effects in lightning—and we can do all sorts of tricks like rubbing a piece of amber with fur to produce electrical currents. But we only know the things it does. Scientists have discovered that the basis of electricity is the protons and electrons which revolve inside atoms. They have proved that protons and electrons can move about *outside* their atoms and that they can change places with other protons and electrons, but they still can't tell us what these minute particles are made of or where they come from.

\* \* \*

NOW this is rather extraordinary, really, because we have been using electricity on a big scale for a long time. It was an Englishman, Dr. Gilbert, who first discovered some of the facts about electricity towards the end of the sixteenth century. He actually gave it its name because he knew the trick I mentioned about rubbing a piece of amber with fur. The ancients, including the Greeks, also knew it. Dr. Gilbert used the word "electric" to describe the trick, "electric" coming from the Greek word

for amber. During the next hundred years scientists in many countries found out more and more things about electricity, but they weren't able to do much with their knowledge. It was another Englishman, Michael Faraday, who, by his work during the first-half of the nineteenth century, brought some sort of practicality to the growing science. He discovered the principle by which dynamos convert mechanical energy into electricity. Once electricity could be produced in this way the uses for it expanded rapidly. Another Englishman, Sir Humphry Davy, had already discovered the principles of the electric lamp, but they could not be applied widely because not enough electricity was produced to light such lamps until dynamos and other machinery came along.

\* \* \*

THEN, with growing speed, the power of electricity was applied to industry, to transport and to domestic life. One of the earliest examples is the lighting of a railway station in Glasgow by another Englishman, R. E. B. Crompton, in 1879, and the lighting of the British Museum in 1880 by Sir William Siemens who was German born, but became a British subject. It was for lighting alone that the first electricity supply companies were formed. Only when Sebastian Ferranti (who was born in Liverpool) built what was then a great power station at Deptford, just outside London, in 1887-88, did large-scale production of electric current become possible. Ferranti's Deptford power station set a pattern for Britain and the rest of the world, and it was quickly followed. The power of the steam turbine was applied to electricity production, which was soon being called "generation" and the machines that produce electricity were called generators. In other countries where there were big, fast-flowing rivers the power of the movement of water was applied to turn the generators and now some of the world's biggest power stations are worked by this means.

\* \* \*

IN 1927, Britain took another great step forward in electricity supply by forming what is called the

"Grid", a system of carrying electricity all over the country by wires, and linking to it all the power stations. The effect of this is that if the machinery in any power station breaks down its work is taken up by other stations, and when the demand for electricity reaches its peak on the dark and cold days of winter, everybody can be supplied. The Grid has grown since 1927, and it is still growing as more and more power stations are built, and more and more people turn to electricity for domestic use. In spite of all this growth—or partly, perhaps, because of it—and in spite of the rise in the cost of coal and other fuels, labour and buildings, electricity in Britain now costs very little more than it did before the war. In fact, there are even parts of the country where it is actually cheaper.

\* \* \*

NOW we have entered the age of atomic energy and here again Britain led the way by building the world's first large-scale nuclear power station to produce electricity for a public supply system. That was two years ago and already other atomic energy power stations, far bigger than the first one, are nearing completion. As the world's supplies of coal and oil dwindle so this new form of energy will be used to meet the ever-growing need for electricity, bringing more and more power to the hands of workers throughout the world and raising their standards of living to heights undreamed of when Faraday made his great discoveries. Men and women whose only knowledge of electricity so far has been to see, and shelter from, lightning, will share in the benefits which controlled electric power will bring. We may even see, in a generation or two the production of unlimited electricity from the energy released by the fusion of heavy hydrogen atoms in a controlled process similar to that by which the sun warms the earth. And at this time experiments are going on to use the power of the wind to generate electricity. This is being done through the same principle which was used to drive windmills. The invisible wind turns the arms of the new kind of windmill and that motion drives a small electricity generator, so that one invisible power produces another.

(Continued on page 31)

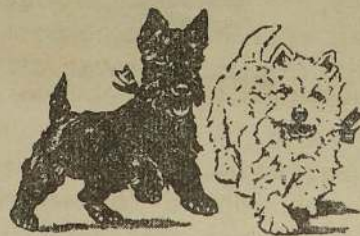




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# A SPORTS CAUSERIE

By ITINERANT

## Racing

THE Galle Gymkhana Club's Christmas race meeting was confined to three days' racing and proved a great success.

Mahoul asserted his claim to be called the best Arab in training when winning the Southern Cup (6 furs.) on the opening day, this being the bay pony's third success in this valuable event.

He was followed in by stablemates Stanul al Khair and Qamaru, the latter coming out after a spell of ten months, running a very creditable race.

\* \* \*

ANOTHER old favourite to hit the headlines was Joshua who romped home in the J.G. Abeyedeera Cup (7 furs.) beating Shell Pink and Kittiwake easily.

Both Mahoul and Joshua earned further distinction, by lowering the course records in their respective races.

A thrilling finish in the Closenberg Plate (1 mile) saw Mr. A. R. M. Zarook's new French importation Vicence and Copper Belt flash past the judge together and with no photo-finish camera to consult, the man in the box declared a dead-heat.

Vijelatan and Ghazal al Tranaya's easy successes earned them promotion to the higher class.

\* \* \*

ON the second day there were four trophy races and Vijelatan, making his debut in the top-class, made all the running to win the Abeyesundere Cup (1 mile) rather comfortably from Joshua and Reckless Courage, to become the first horse to gain a dual success.

Court of Claims was another easy winner, setting his own pace to win the C.T.C. Cup (1¼ miles) from Shelbo Star and The Moal.

There was a surprise turn-up in Manning Plate (6 furs.) when the aged Madlul Naji cleverly handled by Gunadasa finished too strongly for Petroleum and the hot favourite Kubaishan. The winner was easy to back and returned odds of over 15 to 1.

A close finish in the G.G.C. Plate (1 mile) saw the Southern owned Wiqar Hilimat peg back Sarem and Bader Ubaid to score a popular victory.

Trainer A. Selvaratnam again had a good day and leads the professionals with six successes, while Mohideen fared best among the jockeys.

\* \* \*

BOOSA'S big day was on Sunday and with it ended the three day meeting. Major T. F. Jayawardene's Briggs, ridden by M. A. deKauwe, won the Governor-General's Bowl



—Times  
NEIL HARVEY, the Australian left-hander, who batted brilliantly in the second Test.

(1¼ miles) the main attraction for the season. The son of Fair Copy was neglected on the tote and won at odds of over 17 to 1 from last year's winner Adamant, with Reckless Courage third.

Balfour Declaration and Miss Eleanor scored easy victories in the J. E. Perera Cup (6 furs.) and Amarasuriya Cup (1 mile) respectively, while Ghazal al Thanaya chalked up his second success at the meet when taking the De Soysa Cup (1¼ miles).

TRAINER A. Selvaratnam and his wife had a splendid meet. Mrs. Selvaratnam was the leading owner, while Selvaratnam topped the professional's list.

Mohideen came out top amongst the jockeys, booting in four winners.

\* \* \*

## England Outplayed

THERE was such optimism in England over the present series of Test matches that the failure of Peter May's team up to now has been a great disappointment to those who expected big things from a side that had performed so brilliantly during recent years. Few could have imagined that England would fare so disastrously against an Australian team that on paper compared unfavourably with the M. C. C. team. The result of the first Test at Brisbane was in the nature of a surprise, but England's miserable showing in the second Test which ended at Melbourne last Monday in victory for the Australians by eight wickets points to the destination of the mythical Ashes beyond a shadow of doubt.

England's humiliating batting failures, as one writer remarked, sank to a new low when they were shot out last Saturday for 87 runs in their second innings. England who are now two down will need a mighty effort to prevent Australia from clinching matters at Sydney in the third Test commencing to-day.

\* \* \*

## Rest Triumph

THE Rest led by F. C. de Saram, won the cricket 'Quad', beating the holders, the Mercantile Services, by 34 runs.

Feature of the game was the sparkling century by Michael Tissera, who hit 105 runs of the Rest total of 282 for 9 wickets declared.

R. J. Reid and Dan Piachaud, the Oxford blue, who is on holiday here, helped in the batting with scores of 52 and 34 respectively.

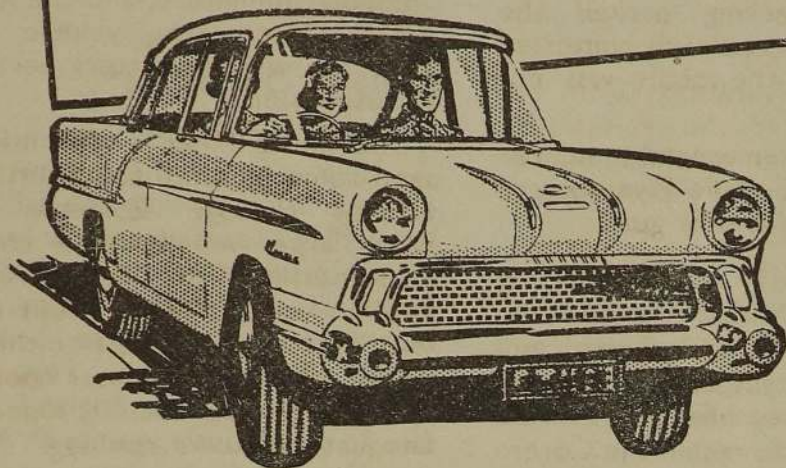
Despite useful knocks of A. C. M. Lafir (65), C. I. Gunsekera (66), V. G. Prins (36) and M. A. Caffoor (25), the Mercantile team failed to reach the Rest score, and were all out for 248.

A. Polonnowita and Tissera shared the bowling honours.



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## A SPORTS CAUSERIE

A **SPLENDID** double by school-boy M. Idroos, 5 for 14 (including the hat-trick) and 51, helped the Moors gain an outright victory over the Bloomfield C.&A.C. in their "P. Saravanamuttu" trophy fixture.

M. E. M. Nawaz was also on the spot, and bagged 6 for 42 in the Bloomfield first innings.

\* \* \*

**THE** N.C.C. consolidated their position in the "P. Sara" tourney with an innings victory over the B.R.C.

Oxford blue Dan Piachaud pulled the champions out of a nasty spot with a well compiled 72, while Michael Tissera with a match bag of 8 for 42 had the B.R.C. batsmen in trouble.

\* \* \*

**THE** Colombo Colts Cricket Club, one of the oldest in the island, has laid turf wickets on their ground at Havelock Park. The first game on the new wicket will be played on January 31st, when the Governor-General's XI will meet the Club President's XI.

F. C. de Saram will lead the G. G.'s XI, and V. G. Prins, the President's XI; and the teams will be composed of All-Ceylon players.

\* \* \*

### Swimming

**TONY** Williams set up two Ceylon records at the Kinross Swimming Gala which was held at St. Joseph's pool.

In the 220 yds. Breast Stroke, he clocked 2 mins. 59.9 secs. and in the 110 yds. Butterfly, took 1 min. 20.3 secs, to deservedly gain the Best Performance Cup for these efforts.

Nine new Club records were established—a splendid achievement in a short programme.

\* \* \*

### Reliability Trials

**BOBBY** Frazer (motor cycles) and Norman Keast (cars) were declared winners of the 11th Annual Monsoon Reliability Trials organised by the C.M.C.C.

This was Frazer's third successive victory in this event.

The Police took the honours in both team events.

### Soccer

**NAVA** Lanka won the C.F.L. Gold Cup when they beat Colpetty United by the odd goal in three in the final game, played on the Echelon Square.

A large gathering packed the Square to witness a closely contested game, although the soccer was not of the best.

Azeez and Hemachandra scored for the winners, while Piyasena got Colpetty United's only goal.

\* \* \*

### Hockey

**THE** Madras H. A. Team concluded a successful tour of Ceylon when they beat a C.H.F. XI by 2 goals to nil to retain the Corera Cup.

The tourists played eight matches during their stay here and went through with an unbeaten record. The local teams, however, were far from disgraced and gave Jimmy Carr and his men a tough time in every game.

Following are the results of the games played: Beat C.H.A. XI 5/1, beat Tamils 5/1, beat Mercantile 2/1, beat Matale President's XI 1/0, beat Matale H. A. 1/0, beat Govt. Services 3/0, beat C.H.F. President's XI 2/0, beat C.H.F. XI 2/0.

\* \* \*

**A** C.H.F. team led by A. Mylvaganam leaves on January 15th on a tour of Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi.

The tour has been made possible by the Punjab Farmers' Sports Association and the Ceylon boys will be away for about six to eight weeks.

The team will consist of 14 players and Mr. W. Jayasooriya as Manager.

\* \* \*

### Table Tennis

**FRANCES** Ratnayake won Ceylon's first title in the All-India Table Tennis Championships played at Ahmedabhad when she annexed the Girls' Singles event in straight sets.

The Ceylon men's team were beaten in the early rounds, but Chrys Guneratne did well to beat Thiruvengadam a seeded player.

---

Here is a superb summing up of the impression created by London's recent Motor Show: "We understand that this year's cars, which are really next year's cars, were very much like last year's cars, which are really this year's cars."

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## NEW CAR NEWS

By J. P. O.

**TWO** very interesting motors which passed through my hands recently were, the MAICO "500" a popular miniature, and the AUSTIN GIPSY, a jeep-type vehicle which leads the way in matters pertaining to suspension.

The MAICO "500".—You may have seen some of these active little cars buzzing through Colombo traffic when larger vehicles have come to a standstill. The designers have boldly made it a full four-seater, with luggage space, despite the small two-stroke engine (water cooled) of 18 horsepower, but I found this adequate for town running. A hundred miles of hilly going, with not so heavy a load, showed the Maico up in a very favourable light, and indeed the high geared steering together with independent suspension all round, made it a pleasure to drive under these conditions.

\* \* \*

**THE** AUSTIN GIPSY is a multi-purpose vehicle of jeep pattern, where two or four-wheel drive may be selected as required. I had looked forward to driving this new product of the Austin Company, as the technical Press had been full of the latest invention, known as Flexitor suspension, which is employed in its construction. In simple language, the Gipsy has no springs, as we know them, the entire suspension being by rubber torsion bars. In fact, "the car can never break a spring because it has no springs to break. Its suspension can never fail from lack of lubrication, because there is nothing to lubricate, and the system requires no maintenance whatever". Tests have shown that the rubber has a fatigue life equal to the life of an average car. My "off the beaten track" road test proved, quite conclusively, the efficacy of this revolutionary suspension design, as the spine rattling jars one normally associates with this form of travel is absent to a marked degree. Power take-off points, with the vehicle used as a stationary unit, enable the Gipsy to be used for numerous purposes such as operating hullers, electric generators, saws, winches.

Comprehensive Road test accounts of the above two vehicles will be published in the January issue of the A.A.C. journal, *The Record*.

(See column 2)



# Healthy Children are great fun



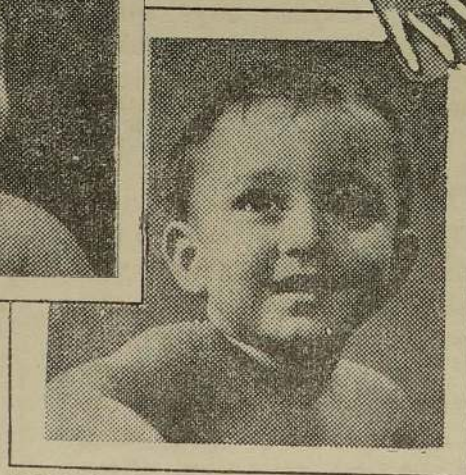
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## A WOMAN'S DIARY

It was very noticeable how much more than in recent years, people of all communities, and even of all religions, seemed to combine freely in celebrating Christmas. Crowds thronged the various "Carols by Candle-light,"—now a recognised feature of our Christmas celebrations; Churches were packed, perhaps, because people who actively participated in all these and other happenings, were trying to recover that spirit of good-will and peace which once prevailed in an island now split by political discord and communal problems.

The beginnings of 1958 saw the Island ravaged by floods; thousands of people rendered homeless, and many lives lost. It almost seemed to predict a year of misfortune, for hardly were the results of the floods coped with when strikes and riots plunged the country into a "State of Emergency" from which it has not yet emerged. This year 1959 dawns with strikes and subsequent shortages—with the prospect of more strikes and more shortages in the days ahead—an alarming prospect particularly from the housewife's point of view—for it is on her that the responsibility of essential food-stuffs, shortages, and soaring prices falls, prices which once up never seem to return to normal!

\* \* \*

### Conferences

THERE has been numerous Conferences and Seminars this year in which Ceylon has been represented by various women's organisations. Following are the extracts from some of their reports.

*Athens.*—Mrs. Swarna Salgado was one of the delegates to a study course on "The Civic Responsibility of Women" arranged in Athens by the International Alliance of Women. The purpose of this course was to bring together women of various cultures to exchange ideas and experiences which would enable them to stimulate other women in their own country to participate more fully in civic life, and to take part in a mutual appreciation of the values of different cultures. 23 countries of the East and West were represented by University and secondary school teachers, Members of Parliament, social workers, and housewives, all met together for

two weeks, to help each other to solve their problems, and to create a better understanding between nations.

Amongst the subjects discussed at the Conference were: "The role of Women in the Family, and in the Economic and Political Field; the reason for so few women being in Parliament; and how best this defect could be remedied. Women we realised should be more civic conscious, and made to understand their responsibilities and obligations as citizens."

The delegates were fortunate in being able to visit several Social Welfare Institutes, and were impressed by the tireless work done by the voluntary social workers, and the wonderful organisations they saw, particularly those organised for the welfare of the children.

Tokyo was the scene of the 14th World Convention on Christian Education, attended by four thousand delegates, representatives from all the Reformed Churches. On the opening night of the Convention the "World Book of Friendship" was presented to the children of Japan. This book was signed by 75,000 children from the rest of the world. Toyohiko Kagawa was present at this Children's Rally, and emphasised when he spoke, that "The Children are the Church of Today not the Church of Tomorrow." Later in the year Mrs. T. L. C. Rajapakse and Mrs. O. L. F. Senaratne represented the Lanka Mahila Samiti at the Conference of Social Workers in Tokyo.

\* \* \*

### Home Science Expert

MISS Henrietta Kirkwood, Home Science expert from New Zealand is now in Ceylon under the Colombo Plan. Miss Kirkwood is from the post-primary inspectorate of the New Zealand Department of Education, and a graduate of the University of Otago. She was also at Cornell University for two years and at the Columbia University Teachers' College, New York. Miss Kirkwood expects to spend three months in Ceylon, and during this period she will study local conditions and the possibility of setting up a Centre for Home Science, based on local requirements, on which she will advise the Government. Since the schools are closed at present for the vacation, Miss Kirkwood, accompanied by Miss Udugama and Miss Chelliah, Chief Inspectresses of Home Science, is busy visiting all types of

homes in villages and towns, milk and food distribution centres, and acquiring first hand information on life and conditions in the country. When the schools re-open she will assist Home Science teachers in their work, with special emphasis on the nutritional aspect in the preparation of food.

The setting up of a Home Science College or Centre for Ceylon has been urged for many years, since teachers who wish to take special trainings or degrees in this subject are obliged to complete their courses outside the Island.

EVELYN.

## A CEYLON PIONEER

(Continued from page 13)

Though the cultivation was spreading all the time, it was only with the coming of Robert Boyd Tyther in 1837, with his three years' experience of coffee planting in Jamaica, that systematic planting on the best-known lines began. Between 1836 and 1841 as many as 61,775 acres were opened up with crown land alienated at 5 shillings an acre. The first firm to invest money in land in Ceylon was Ackland Boyd & Co., who started business in Colombo in 1829.

## FORCE THAT CAN'T BE SEEN

(Continued from page 25)

Perhaps by the time we have harnessed the energy of the sun and the wind to generate electricity we may find out what it really is and so solve the riddle of the "mysterious fluid" as the early investigators called it. Or perhaps we shall know more about the moon instead!

## Ceylon Fortnightly Review

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# BRITISH LETTER WRITERS

By FRANK SWINNERTON

(Fortnightly Review Special)

Mr. Swinnerton has been well-known for many years as a novelist and critic. His books include "Nocturne" and "The Georgian Literary Scene."

IT is quite untrue that the age of letter-writing is over. Business men may send telegrams or cables, dictate memoranda, make long distance telephone calls, or fly thousands of miles to settle their affairs quickly; but wherever there are exiles, in fact or in spirit, there will be tappings of typewriters or scratching of pens for the communication of intimate news and thoughts. If a man lives in a community which is foreign to him he remembers his old friends with peculiar regard; and his only means of keeping those friends is to write them letters about himself and his employments.

All nations have had their classic letter-writers, from Pliny the Younger to Madame de Sevigne; but the British, travelling and settling much overseas, have produced more temporary exiles, and therefore more letter-writers, than any other people on earth. Even when remaining in their own country, they forsake the cities for rustic solitudes, because privacy is the British dream. Every Briton has read in boyhood the great romance, *Robinson Crusoe*, a story of a man wrecked on a desert island; and every Briton wishes to be a Robinson Crusoe, "monarch of all he surveys". It is only when he reaches his private paradise that he discovers an incapacity for the life of a hermit. He reaches for the ink-bottle, in order to tell those whom he has left behind how happy he is. His friends warmly respond.

\* \* \*

ENGLISH literature is rich in the consequences, which range from Robert Louis Stevenson's home thoughts from the South Seas to quiet chitchat posted from small villages here and there in the British country scene; and, in return, from the brilliant pictures of London social life written by Horace Walpole to divert his cousin, Horace Mann in Florence and his friend Madame du Deffand in Paris, to the comic inventions sent by Charles Lamb to a beloved friend in China. Such

letters have one quality in common; all say, in effect: "You are not forgotten. You are very dear to me. Never forget me."

The words themselves are never written. Owing to British reserve, which is sometimes called "phlegm" or "coldness" or even "morgue", they cannot be spoken. But these Crusoes, once resolved upon exile, and once having bidden a cool farewell to all associates, are impelled to express a few of the emotions upon which ardent friendship is based. They do this obliquely, by describing their new surroundings and occupations. They slip into comment, philosophy, and reminiscence. If they are very good letter-writers, they paint their verbal self-portraits in such a way as to increase the fond memory of friends and, a century or two later, to make thousands of fresh admirers.

\* \* \*

SOME of them, certainly the poets Byron, Shelley, and Keats, have destroyed the legends of their enemies by showing themselves as they really were. Others, seeking only to amuse a single friend by natural gossip, have amused many generations of strangers by the same gossip. It is the gossipers who transmute the trivial into the immortal. They illustrate a remark of Jane Austen's, that "a mind lively and at ease can do with seeing nothing, and can see nothing that does not answer."

Jane Austen proved this in her own letters. When she wrote to her sister Cassandra she spoke with all the intimacy of confidence in Cassandra's understanding. She pretended nothing. Her words were so unstudied that unkind critics have accused her of prattling. But these critics could bring the same charge against the poet Cowper, writing from his village in Buckinghamshire in the eighteenth century, or Edward FitzGerald, who deserted his friends for a riverside village in Suffolk and kept them entertained for many years by mingling local affairs and acute criticism and old memories. They too, for a domestic letter-writer, have a difference lay

in the fact that Cowper and FitzGerald had known the sophisticated world, whereas Jane Austen understood everything by intuition and conversed with a sister who did the same.

\* \* \*

AT the other extreme Horace Walpole, son of a Prime Minister, chatted to his correspondents, many of whom were titled ladies, about the well-born and sophisticated statesmen and great public events. He lived in the heart of London Society, and having determined to be the historian of that Society he insisted that his letters should be preserved and returned to him. They were preserved and returned; they make such a history as he desired. But although they are the most brilliant of all, they are not the truly characteristic British letters, for they are full of art. The characteristic letters are written in private candour, by candle-light, to friends who by the magic of imagination are brought very near. They are like unreserved talk, bringing the writers, and a whole nation, before us without disguise.

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## 1959—PEERING INTO THE FUTURE

(Continued from page 15)

done to bring offenders to book and clear the reputation of the majority of Ceylonese traders who are honest.

\* \* \*

IN the first days of the year there was some indication that the Government favoured reference of disputes to Industrial Courts but there was previously some vacillation. It may be a pointer to a new consistency in industrial disputes. There is, however, still no sign of a clear and consistent policy in dealing with industrial disputes. Even in respect of the oil companies' strike, which was settled last week, there was evidence that employers had been more or less brow-beaten into an acceptance of a demand for the payment of a bonus (the other issues were of consent referred to the Industrial Courts). Then there was the evidence in the bank clerks' strike, which the Minister, having referred the demands to an Industrial Court, declared illegal but which nevertheless went on until the Prime Minister himself intervened.



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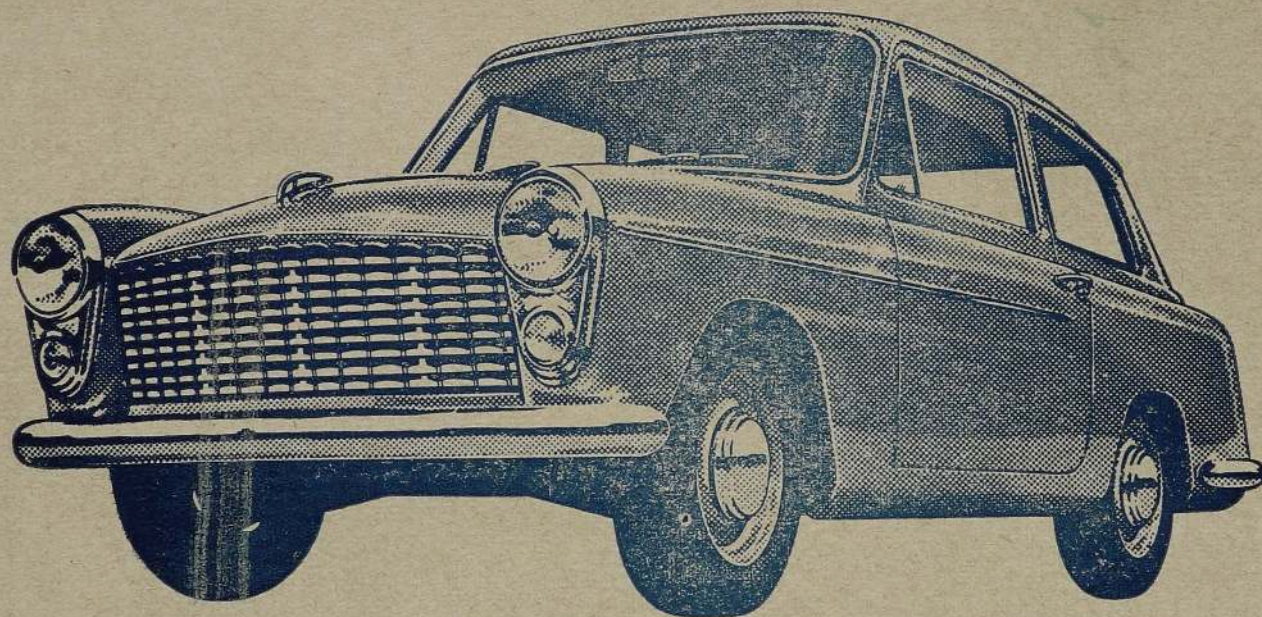
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