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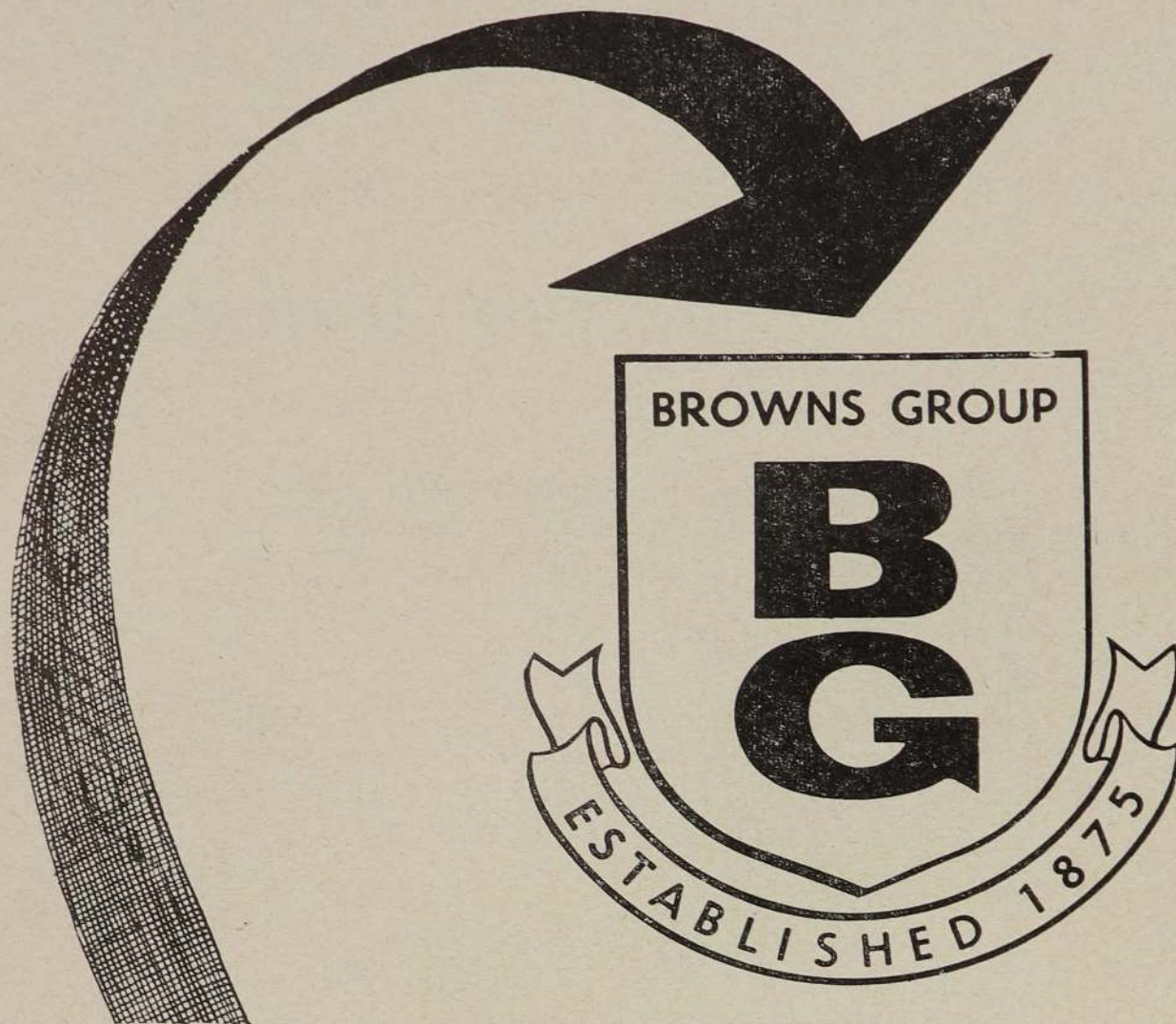
FOR UNWANTED BABIES



— Times

Mrs. C. E. L. Wickremesinghe laying one of the foundation-stones for the Home for Abandoned Babies and Rehabilitation Centre for Mothers at Buller's Road, Colombo.

The Home is sponsored by the Daya Hewavitharne Dharmaduta Sabha, and the building is estimated to cost Rs. 350,000.



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RACECOURSE FOR STADIUM

THE fate of horse racing in Ceylon is definitely in the balance. Apart from the pressure being brought to bear on the Government to abolish racing, the diminishing revenue of the Turf Club and the demand for increased emoluments by its employees are factors that cannot be left out of account. In certain circumstances, however, the Club may survive and racing be continued.

* * * *

WHERE opinion is critical of racing, it may be said to be concentrated on the activities of the Turf Club in Colombo. Resentment seems to derive mainly from the fact that the racecourse is situated in the centre of the City and occupies an extent of land which might be applied to wider public purposes but is actually used for racing and other sport only for a limited period in the year.

* * * *

THERE is not the same hostility to racing in Galle or Nuwara Eliya, perhaps because of the festive spirit that pervades the event at these places as against the grim mercenary approach to the meetings in Colombo. There is no gainsaying the fact that betting more than sport characterises the meetings in the metropolis, as borne out by the recent incident which compelled the abrupt termination of the day's programme.

* * * *

WHAT emerges then is that there would be no great objection if racing in Colombo were conducted not in the City itself but in one of the suburbs, as was contemplated some time ago. Should the Turf Club, therefore, voluntarily surrender its leasehold and take itself out of Colombo, the gesture should meet with popular appreciation and even lead to the agitation against racing losing support.

* * * *

AS for the alternative use of the racecourse, obviously it should be the site of a stadium as advocated by the Minister of Education, Mr. W. Dahanayake. The stadium would allow of accommodation for all sports, for which it is ideally suited by its location. What is more, it would cater for a greater public all the year round than occasionally for exclusive judges of horse flesh.

THE EDITOR.

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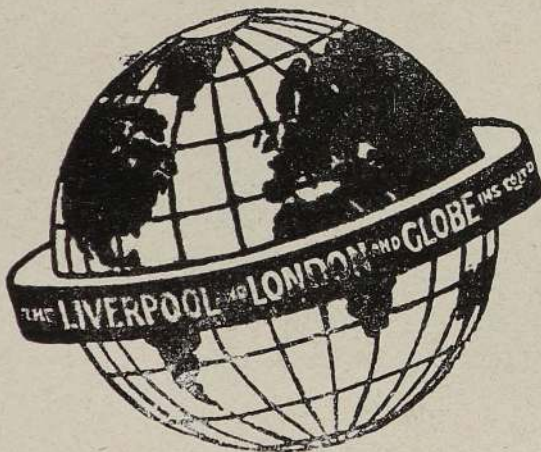
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

—By BRUTUS—

THE Prime Minister expects to attend the general assembly of the United Nations next month.

Ceylon's election to the Security Council being almost certain, Mr. Bandaranaike is reported to have expressed his desire to go to the U.N. at last week's Cabinet meeting. Internal conditions have reached such a state of tranquillity as to allow of Mr. Bandaranaike's absence from the Island. On the other hand, at the U.N. he would be able to participate in discussions on various matters of Asian interest that are likely to come up at the impending session.

Mr. Bandaranaike addressed the U.N. for the first time three years ago shortly after the revolt in Hungary.

Either on his way out or home Mr. Bandaranaike intends to spend some time in Britain. His visit will be at a most interesting period, considering that the British General Election is fixed for October 8th. He will have the opportunity of meeting leaders of the new government.

An invitation that awaits him in Britain is to address the Oxford Union, the scene of his early oratorical triumphs.

* * *

MR. Stanley de Zoysa, Finance Minister, left Ceylon on September 12 to attend the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference in London and the World Bank meeting at Washington. En route Mr. de Zoysa stops at Cairo to discuss questions relating to trade between Ceylon and Egypt, and at Belgrade to conclude the economic aid agreement between Yugoslavia and Ceylon, which was entered into earlier this year.

Mr. de Zoysa's absence from the Island gives his new Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. M. Mustapha, a chance to prove his mettle. At 24 he will be the youngest member acting as Finance Minister.

* * *

WITH the development of Trincomalee and Galle as regular ports of export, the Minister of Finance recommended to the Government withdrawal of the concessionary rate of duty on tea shipped through these ports. The concession con-

sisted of a rebate of two cents on every pound of tea exported from Trincomalee and Galle and was meant to cover the additional cost involved in transport.

The Cabinet, however, turned down the recommendation on representations made by the trade.

* * *

FOLLOWING protests by tea and shipping interests against a proposal by the Port Cargo Corporation to discontinue small tea shipments on mail and passenger ships, the permissible quantity has been limited to 100 lb. Until some weeks ago up to 200 lb. was allowed.

Shipment of tea in passenger ships was chiefly to Australia, in order, it was claimed, to maintain a regular flow of exports, and the protest by the trade emphasised the competitive character of the Australian market. In fixing the permissible export at 100 lb. the Corporation has laid down that the concession would be available to ships calling at Colombo bound for Australia and the Far East and not those bound for the United Kingdom and Europe.

* * *

THE port of Colombo is to be further developed by the construction of two piers to accommodate

six vessels in the Kochchikade area and transit sheds and warehouses with road and rail facilities.

The Government having sought a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to finance the project—it is estimated to cost Rs. 60 million—a team of experts from the Bank is to visit Ceylon to report on the scheme.

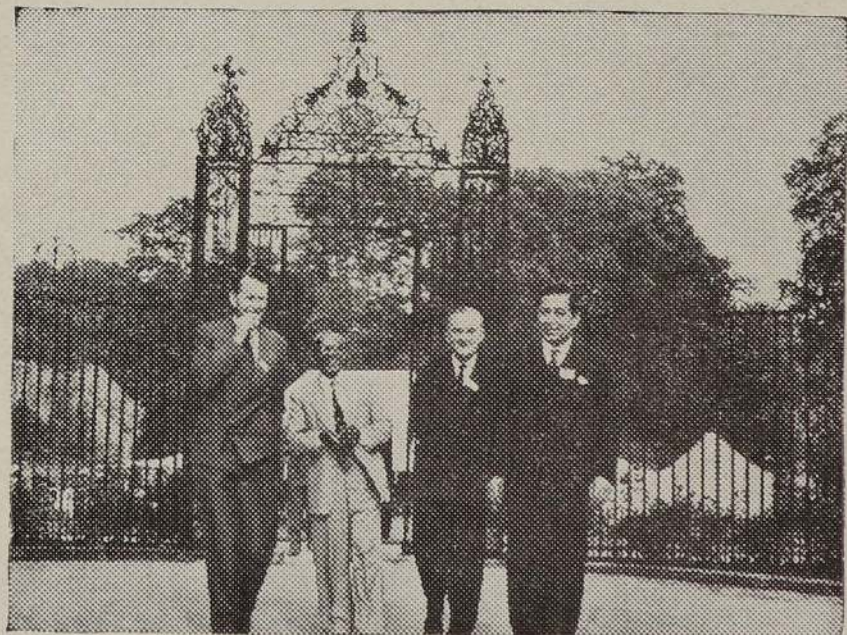
An ancillary project, estimated to cost Rs. 18.85 millions refers to development of the Beira lake waterfront for cargo handling.

* * *

OVERLAPPING in aid given to under-developed Asian countries was drawn attention to by Mr. R. G. Senanayake, Minister of Commerce and Trade, in his speech at the Inter-parliamentary Union conference in Warsaw last month.

Mr. Senanayake, who led the Ceylon delegation to the conference, said that at present aid schemes were unco-ordinated and overlapped each other. In order to resolve the conflict between governments in giving aid, he pleaded for a unified system.

Interviewed in London, on his return, Mr. Senanayake said he found better prospects for trade between Poland and Ceylon than he had imagined. He is due to visit Germany and Yugoslavia for trade talks.



At a recent garden party in the grounds of New College, Oxford University, four delegates to the Commonwealth Educational Conference enjoy an informal chat. They are (left to right): Sir Henry Linton (U.K.), Mr. E. H. de Alwis (Ceylon), Sir Allen Brown (Australia) and Enche Mohamed Yusoff (Malaya).

Opening the Conference, the President—Lord Halifax, Chancellor of Oxford University—said that they had made work out practical arrangements for mutual aid in education.

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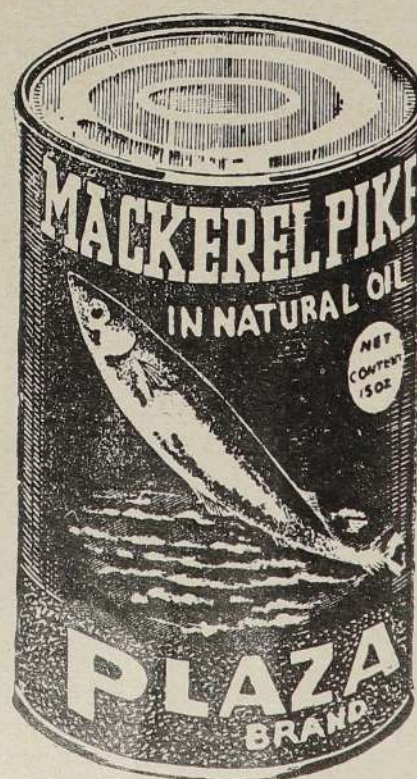
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

A SINGLE code of regulations applicable to all schools has been drafted by education officers and circulated among teachers associations for criticism.

Commenting on the far-reaching changes the code will introduce, the Director of Education, Mr. S. F. de Silva, states: "Schools in Ceylon have so far been administered under three different codes. With the disappearance of English and bilingual schools, some of the regulations have become obsolete. A new approach to education in general also made a thorough revision unavoidable. It has been decided therefore to prepare a single unified code that will be applicable to Government and assisted schools alike and to every type of school within these broad categories."

Claiming that no country in the world looks after its teachers in training as does Ceylon, Mr. de Silva lists the following facilities allowed to them: two years full pay leave and incremental credit while in training; the appointment of substitutes in place of the teachers undergoing training; full pay leave to teachers who have served at least three months in a Government or assisted school during the year preceding admission to a training college.

* * *

WHILE there is a shortage of engineers in Ceylon, it is disclosed that more than 20 Ceylonese engineers have accepted employment abroad—in Ghana, Malaya, Sudan and even the United Kingdom—because better terms were available to them than obtain at home. Indeed, doctors and scientists have also been lost to the country for this and other reasons.

In view of the requirements of the Government's ten-year plan, an official committee has been appointed to go into the question of training engineers and other technicians. The members of the committee are Mr. E. O. E. Pereira, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering of the University; Mr. A. E. C. de S. Gunasekera, Director of Irrigation; Mr. H. R. Premaratne, Director of Public Works; Mr. E. C. Fernando, General Manager of Government Electrical Undertakings; Mr. B. D. Rampala, General Manager of the Railway; and Dr. S. L. de Silva, Principal of the Technical College; with Mr. F. D. C. Wijesinghe of the Planning Secretariat as Secretary.

DIPLOMATIC difficulties in taking delivery of a frigate bought for the Ceylon Navy from Israel have been overcome by the transaction being carried out on the high seas.

It is reported from Israeli sources that there was a delay of several weeks because the Ceylon Government hesitated to take delivery at Eilat without the prior approval of the United Arab Republic. The crew sent from Ceylon to man the vessel waited at Aden until the formalities were concluded, the good offices of the United Nations also being sought in the matter. The impasse was resolved by Israel sending the frigate, with an Israel crew and flying the Israel Navy colours, down the Tiran straits and through the Gulf of Aqaba into the Red Sea, where it was taken over by the Ceylonese crew.

The frigate is one of two sold to Ceylon and is of the River class.

* * *

THE Director of Health Services, Dr. W. A. Karunaratne, will represent Ceylon at the WHO expert committee session on health education at Geneva next month. He will leave for Geneva after the WHO regional assembly to be held

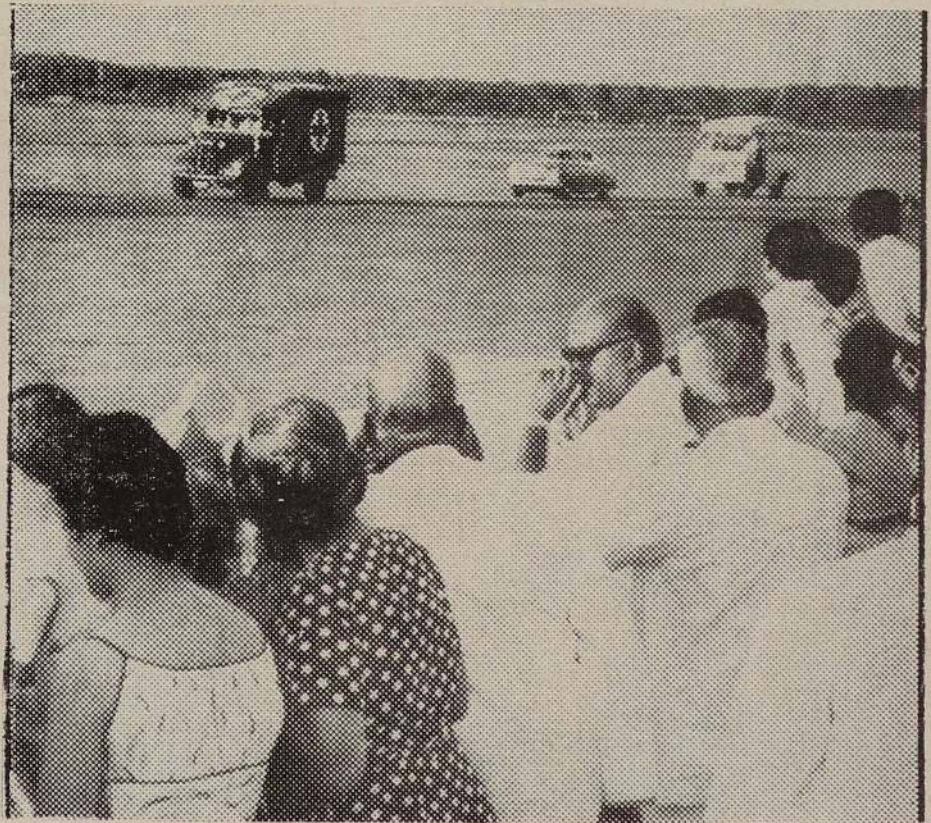
in Kandy in the last week of this month.

Dr. Karunaratne will also visit the United Kingdom to discuss post-graduate training of Ceylon doctors with organizations in London and Edinburgh. On his itinerary also is Yugoslavia, where he will study public health administration.

* * *

CONTRADICTIONS in national life observable today are typified by the attitude of some people towards intoxicants and the actual consumption of liquor. A powerful section of opinion is urging the introduction of prohibition. On the other hand, the growing demand for arrack is being met by widespread surreptitious manufacture of spirits, often of a deleterious character, so much so that the Government has launched a vigorous campaign to eradicate the illicit industry.

In the meantime, although the price of arrack has been increased by Rs. 2 a bottle, competition for tavern licences has brought increased revenue to the state, a development that is explained by the fact that consumers are now allowed to take away two bottles at a time instead of one until recently.



—Times

Mr. C. P. de Silva, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, who was taken ill at a Cabinet meeting recently, left for London by plane last week for medical treatment.

He was taken to the Airport in an Army ambulance, and was seen off by a large crowd, including the Prime Minister.

EVERYBODY KNOWS-

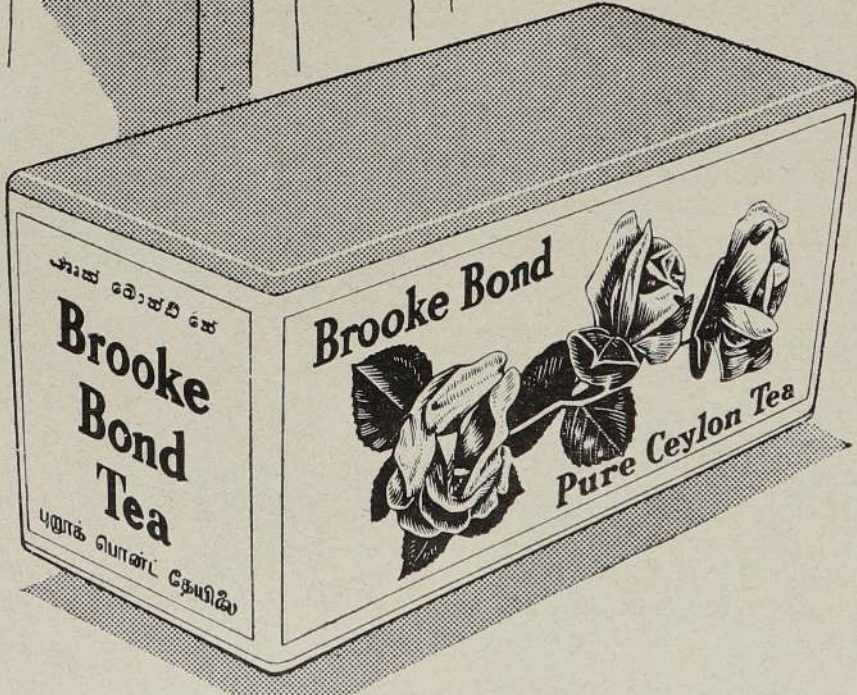
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

A significant development is that a local option poll has resulted in the re-opening of arrack taverns in the Kurunegala district, which had remained dry for as long as thirty-three years.

* * *

INDICATIVE of the transition which the education system is passing through is a report that the Government is to take over, with the consent of the management, some fifteen privately-managed schools. The cost of the land, buildings and equipment is estimated at around Rs. 2 million. The teachers will have the option of joining Government service.

A school which has been already turned over to the Government is All Saints College, Galle, one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in Galle, having been established by the Anglican mission in the middle of the last century. It is said that parents had suggested to the Minister of Education that the school, which had lost support in recent times, be taken over by the Government, and the Bishop of Colombo consented to the proposition. The science laboratory and the library and other equipment were donated to the Government. The school stands on Government land.

All Saints, which claimed Admiral Lord Fisher among its alumni, will hereafter be known as Galu Madhyama Maha Vidyalaya (Galle Central College).

* * *

ACENTRAL state purchasing organization, to be known as the Civil Supplies Board, is to be set up by the Government, on the recommendation of the Minister of Commerce and Trade, Mr. R. G. Senanayake, for the purchase (including arrangements for shipping) of the Government's requirements of imported goods either direct from exporters or through responsible agents.

The object of the Government is to co-ordinate the purchase of all goods and commodities required by the Government. The Board will also assist state corporations in their purchases or imports and advise the Government with regard to the negotiation of bilateral trade agreements between Ceylon and other countries. The purchase and disposal of products of local manu-

facture and stimulation of the production of quality goods are also within the scope of the Board.

* * *

A PILOT Plant at the ilmenite factory at Pulmoddai, north of Trincomalee in the Eastern Province, set up by the Mineral Sands Corporation, was formally opened on September 3rd.

The machinery for the factory is being provided by a Japanese firm, a representative of which, Mr. Ogawa, took part in the ceremony by lighting the traditional oil lamp. Others associated with him were Mr. M. D. F. A. de Silva, resident engineer, and Mr. I. Ono, a Colombo Plan expert. The works manager, Mr. C. C. Yamada, switched on the pilot plant.

* * *

THERE are signs of a thaw in the cold war between the Federal Party and the Government. Several Ministers have arranged circuits to the north and east for the first time since the Government was formed and the Federal Party is reported to have decided not to stage hostile demonstrations during their visit as long as there are no "tamashas" arranged in their honour and their engagements are of a strictly official character.

A Minister who is likely to disarm antagonists is Mrs. Vimala Wijewardene, who is now in charge of local government and housing, when she visits the Batticaloa district. She has already shown herself alive to the needs of local bodies by acknowledging the urgency of increasing their sources of revenue on the lines of the Choksy Commission's recommendations. She is also well advised to start with an incursion to Batticaloa, a long neglected part of the country, already softened by the appointment of Mr. U. S. Ethirmanasingham as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour.

THE importance of science was brought home to the public by an impressive exhibition organized by the Ceylon Association for the Advancement of Science in Colombo last week.

The exhibition, which was in two sections, science and medical, was opened by Sir Nicholas Attygalle, vice-Chancellor of the University.

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A lesson imparted was how the natural resources of the country are being utilised and what further uses are possible. There was also a display of pharmaceuticals by commercial houses.

Features of the exhibition were sections devoted to the development of fisheries and forestry, a description by the Kankesanturai cement factory of the raw materials used in cement manufacture and their location, a display of natural minerals occurring in Ceylon and a depiction of the geological survey, and a demonstration of the work of the institute for industrial and scientific research.

* * *

THE grave lack of skilled workers is to be met by the establishment, with Canadian aid, of a trade school in Colombo in the premises of the Technical College, the engineering sections of which are to be moved from the City to Katubedde, where an Institute of Technology is to be set up in buildings nearing completion.

The trade school, which will have accommodation for 400 full-time and 900 part-time students, will provide instruction, in the initial stage, in building, electrical, motor, wood- and metal-work and printing.

The Institute of Practical Technology, which is to be equipped with laboratories and workshops by Canada, will have accommodation for a minimum of 500 resident students at a time.

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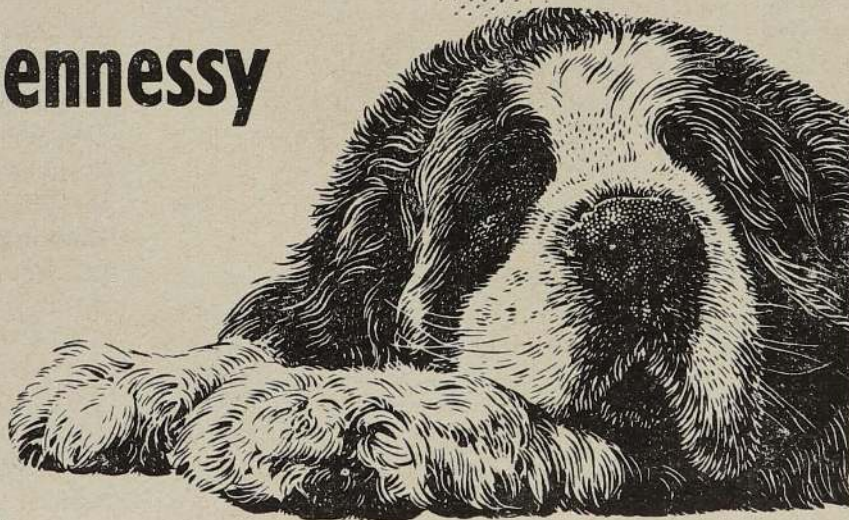
TO introduce their product Pelargon Nestle's conducted a "mother and child" photographic contest which drew many entries from all layers of society of all communities. The prize-winners were Mrs. L. Gunatilleke and her son, Mrs. C. W. Amaratunga and her son and Mrs. J. B. Blake and her daughter.

The photographers who won prizes on the results were Miss Weerawardene, Mr. Joe Perera and Mr. S. Meynert.

THE Australian High Commissioner in Ceylon, Mr. J. C. G. Kevin, is among the five-man Australian delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations which opened in New York on September 15.

The delegation is led initially by the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. R. G. Casey.

I'm
dreaming
of my next
little
Hennessy



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IS THERE A HENNESSY IN THE HOUSE?

THIS WAY, PLEASE

—By ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON—

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

BACK-ROOM boys and girls—and, in fact, all that vast section of mankind who work, out of sight, to keep the world turning—will applaud the engine-room staff of the Royal Navy's newest aircraft carrier, *Victorious*. Proud of their 30,000-ton ship, they want to know more about her.

Down in the engine-room no one could teach them anything about turbines and pressure gauges, but what about all those British inventions up top—the fully-angled flight deck, radar, deck-landing mirror sights, and the steam catapults in action?

So they put in a request to the Commanding Officer, Captain Charles Coke, for conducted tours of *Victorious*. Needless to say, the Captain was delighted, and "See-other-parts-of-your-own-ship" tours are now routine for everybody from galley cooks to gunners' mates.

The ship's company has thus got itself right up-to-date and in line with current fashion. Half the world nowadays seems to be entertaining the other half on "conducted tours". Itineraries can cover anything from a country garden to a continent.

* * *

A Double Triumph

AT one end of the scale we have Queen Elizabeth II's triumphal tour of Canada—a triumph of personal courage, too, as we learned afterwards with news of the expected happy event. At the other end there are the Queen's subjects, whether they be in Canberra or Cape Town, Wellington or London, warming to the thrills of being escorted round the local sights.

As I write, the ten-years-old Prince of Wales has just been taken on his first tour of the London Festival Gardens Fun Fair, trying his luck at potting the ball and other

amusements. Meanwhile the Queen's cousin, Princess Alexandra, has begun her world tour of 35,000 miles (56,330 kilometres), including six weeks in Australia for the Queensland centenary celebrations.

These peregrinations may differ in kind and degree, but they all share that glorious quality of being "conducted tours".

The United Kingdom just now is packed with carefree folk indulging in this particular luxury. Luxury I will always call it, there being nothing to compare with that cosy feeling of self-importance, illusory no doubt, which grips members of an escorted party.

* * *

Apparently Told For The First Time

HELPFUL and attentive, the guides appear miraculously to be telling the story for the first time. For our ears alone, it would appear, has been reserved the grim history of the dungeons in the Tower of London. Or, as we glide by water-bus through leafy-banked Regent's Canal, in the heart of the Big Town, it is to us privileged people the guide breaks the news by loud speaker that "Blow Up Bridge", under which we pass, was really blown up—80 years ago.

"Welcome to Blenheim, ladies and gentlemen—", was how we were greeted the other afternoon by a tall, donnish-looking guide in the magnificent Great Hall of Blenheim Palace in the English county of Oxfordshire. Seat of the Duke of Marlborough, this is among the finest of England's "Stately Homes" thrown open to the public. Any visitor from Britain or overseas who has been there will probably agree with me that, as a conducted tour, the trip round this glorious mansion, set amid woodland lakes and landscaped gardens, is a model of what such things should be.

* * *

Six To Tell A Story

OUR party of about 30 included visitors from Canada and the United States of America. I suppose we covered half a mile (800 metres)

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or more through saloons and state-rooms and the splendid Long Library, all replete with Old Master paintings and tapestries, until, through the Chapel, we emerged into the terraced water gardens.

Not one guide but six—mostly University students of both sexes—told us the story. With honours fit for a delegation of foreign potentates, we were handed over from one guide to another—from the Great Hall to the Red Writing Room and the Green Drawing Room, from the State Rooms to the Library, passing, *en route*, the tiny bedroom in which Sir Winston Churchill was born.

Sir Winston, second cousin of the present Duke, is likewise descended from that great John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, who, 250 years ago, was given the Palace by a grateful nation in recognition of his military victories in Europe.

* * *

Historical Show Places

FROM Blenheim Palace, in the top bracket, right down to small country mansions with perhaps historical associations or beautifully-tended gardens, Britain abounds in show places of astonishing variety.

Halfway on the 60-miles (96 kilometres) run back to London I dropped—almost literally—into the Hell-Fire Caves at West Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. Here, for a modest fee, is a loud-speaker escort to help you probe deep into hillside catacombs and an illuminated banqueting hall where, 200 years ago, dashing young men of 18th century England steeped themselves in wine and mysterious, outlandish ceremonies.

To-day everyone makes a dash for the modern soda-fountain.

A GLORIOUS SUMMER

Our London Correspondent writes:—

"We are now almost at the end of Summer and a truly glorious one it has been. Even now we are enjoying lovely sunny days, although the last forty-eight hours have started off very chilly—just a reminder that Autumn is round the corner.

"The farmers over here have had a really excellent year and a bumper harvest is to be reaped very soon. In fact, in some parts, harvesting has already begun and is well under way in glorious hot sunshine."

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A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

— By CROSS-BENCHER —

WHEN Parliament reassembles next week it will have a new Leader of the House in Mr. W. Dahanayake, Minister of Education. He takes the place of Mr. C. P. de Silva, who was suddenly taken ill at a Cabinet meeting last month and was last week flown to England for treatment. Mr. de Silva's portfolio, Agriculture and Lands, was temporarily added to that of Transport and Power, of Mr. Maitripala Senanayake.

The Prime Minister's choice of Mr. Dahanayake for Leader of the House has been received with approbation in parliamentary circles and outside. Not only is Mr. Dahanayake the oldest parliamentarian after Mr. Bandaranaike, but he is believed to lead a group of the Government party which exerted a powerful influence in the break-up of the MEP coalition. In so far as his educational policy has satisfied national sentiment, he is rated the most successful of the Ministers.

Mr. Dahanayake will also no doubt preside over the Cabinet if Mr. Bandaranaike goes to the UN next month.

* * *

THE Government will have a dependable majority in the Senate when the ten members (five elected by the Lower House and five nominated) who go out of office are replaced next month. Hitherto there has been uncertainty about the Upper House supporting any controversial measure adopted in the "other place", as in the case of the Bill for the suspension of the death penalty. It was rejected by the Senate and was re-introduced by the Government at a subsequent session of Parliament. The likelihood is that most of the out-going senators will be back. There are many aspirants for the remaining seats.

The members whose term of office expires in October are Mr. Kurban Adamaly, Mr. A. M. A. Azeez, Mr. Valentine Jayawickreme (Minister of Justice), Sir Sangarapillai Pararajasingham, and Mr. E. B. Wikremnayake (appointed), and Mr. Thomas Amarasuriya, Mr. J. P. Jayasena, Mr. E. W. Kannangara, Mr. Justin Kotelawala, and Mr. S. Nadesan (elected). Members by appointment will, of course, be the choice of the Government. Besides Mr. Jayawickreme, three who are mentioned as assured of seats are Mr. Adamaly, Mr. Azeez

and Mr. Amarasuriya. Of three candidates the Government can put forward for election, one will be, it is forecast, Mr. Jayasena. The candidature of Mr. M. W. H. de Silva, former Minister of Justice, and Mr. S. Nadesan is likely to be sponsored by Opposition parties. Mr. Kannangara is said to be not seeking re-election.

* * *

THE meeting of the Senate last week, when Mr. C. Wijesinghe (Minister of Nationalised Services and Shipping) moved the second reading of the Appropriation Bill, was notable for a question raised at the adjournment by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. E. B. Wikremnayake, Q.C. (Minister of Justice in



Mr. W. Dahanayake

the U.N.P. government), on the attendance of members who are practising lawyers. He said that he had occasion to ask the Chief Justice for postponement of an Appeal listed for a day on which he wished to be present in the House to take part in a discussion on tax matters. The reply was that the Court was not concerned with the Senate.

There had been occasions, Mr. Wikremnayake said, when judges of the Supreme Court and other courts had taken time off to meet V.I.P.'s at the airport or to attend ceremonial functions of Parliament. He did not know why the same privilege should not be extended to members of the Senate and the House of

Representatives, to attend to business of the legislature. He asked that the Minister of Justice look into the matter and if necessary have appropriate legislation enacted.

The President of the Senate, Sir Cyril de Zoysa, suggested that the Minister of Justice take every step to enable members in the position of Mr. Wikremnayake to attend the Senate or the Lower House. Mr. Jayewickreme undertook to do his best in the matter.

* * *

PARLIAMENT being in recess, there has been a lull on the political front, but the Opposition is reported to be active pursuing its plan to probe the working of ministries the votes of which were passed without discussion during the budget session. One of the ministries concerned is that of Posts, Broadcasting and Information, which was prominently in the news last month by reason of a strike of mail sorters arising out of the dismissal of one of their number on disciplinary grounds. The strikers were back within 24 hours when it was evident that it did not have the support of other unions, especially as the dismissed officer had the right of appeal from the Public Service Commission's decision. A threat of the employment of troops to man the mail room also probably had the desired effect. Earlier, on a question raised in Parliament by the Opposition, an irregularity in the Information Department was exposed when it was proved that a press officer had been appointed although he did not possess the requisite qualifications.

* * *

THE Ministry of Commerce and Trade is another target of the Opposition, which is seeking a debate on the report of the Shipping Commission, a feature of which was contrary conclusions reached by the local and foreign members of the Commission on various matters that were enquired into. The Opposition is also considering a vote of no-confidence in the Home Minister, Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, for his part in the events which led to the escape from the Kandy hospital, while serving a term of imprisonment, of the former Kandy proctor, Mr. P. B. Kolugala. The Minister has ordered the Police to use all their resources to trace the prisoner, an order which has turned out to be a prolific theme for cartoonists.

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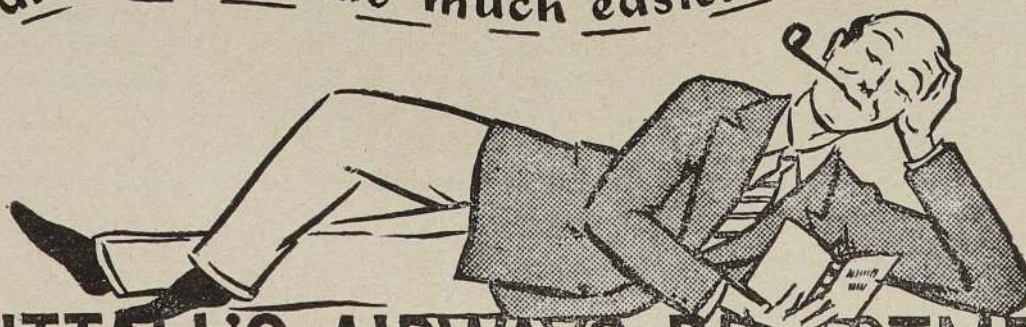
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IMPRESSIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST-II

—By Sir JOHN HOWARD, Q.C.—

(Special to the Fortnightly Review)

THE local inspection completed our work, which had not been arduous. I discovered, however, that Iraqi lawyers did not evince a passion for work. No doubt the heat and a plethora of holidays was responsible for this. We had, therefore, plenty of time on our hands in which to visit places of interest within a reasonable distance of Baghdad. One of these places was Ctesiphon, which possesses one of the most famous ruins in the Middle East.

The site of Ctesiphon first appears in history as a famous camping ground of Parthian kings during the last century before Christ. It is on the left bank of the Tigris over against the Greek city of Seleucia, then the capital, and is situate about thirty miles from Baghdad. It would appear to have taken the place of Seleucia as the capital during the reigns of the Sassanian Persians.

The palace, of which a part still survives, is a conspicuous example of ancient engineering in Iraq and is attributed to either Chosroes, a Persian king, or to the fabulous Queen Semiramis.

* * *

THE great Sassanian hall remains to-day the widest single-span vault of unreinforced concrete in the world. Its width is over twenty-five metres and its height from the pavement thirty-seven. It is built without temporary centring on a principle common in later Persian buildings which involves constructing the first triangular panels obliquely, supported at the base by the side and at the end by the headwalls. After this it was merely a matter of each vertical brick leaning back and being supported on the previous one.

At Ctesiphon only one wing of the principal facade remains standing, the other having fallen after a serious flooding of the Tigris in 1909 and being eagerly removed by local builders. In spite of this the remains of the arch, the wall of which is three metres thick, though unsightly, is a most imposing structure. It has survived fifteen hundred years, a fact in itself providing a tribute

to the engineering skill of those days.

* * *

ON another occasion we made a fifty-four mile journey to visit what remains of Babylon, famous in the Bible as the ancient city of Nebuchadnezzar. It was also the throne of Hammurabi, the ruler of the ancient country of Akkad. Hammurabi ruled from 1792 to 1750 B.C., during which period he made numerous conquests and consolidated his rule.

This Ammorrite prince was not only a great conqueror. Two hundred years of war had ruined the country. Everywhere there were temples and houses to be rebuilt, fortifications to be raised, canals to be dug or reopened. The peasants needed protection, the merchants encouragement. All this Hammurabi did.

Historians are in possession of a number of letters which he wrote to two of his officials. They show that this Ammorrite, whose ancestors not so long ago were Beduins, ruled his small city state with devotion and parental care, attentive to the smallest detail, always ready to take a decision and to offer help and advice.

* * *

THE Babylonian Empire was a mixture of peoples and the old Sumerian-Akkadian laws varied from town to town and required to be unified, amended and adapted to a new age. Hammurabi crowned his long reign by edicting his famous code of law:

"To cause justice to prevail in the country, to destroy the wicked and the evil that the strong may not oppress the weak, to rise like the sun over the black-headed people and to light up the land."

A modern law giver could not do better than base his legislation on Hammurabi's Code. It would appear that Hammurabi, having reached his goal, the supremacy of the Semites, had no small opinion of his work which he looked upon with pride and referred to in the following passage:

"I am the King who is pre-eminent among Kings. My words are choice,

my ability has no equal. By the order of Shamash, the great judge of heaven and earth, may my justice prevail in the land: by the words of Marduk, my Lord, may my statutes have no one to scorn them: in Esagila, which I love, may my name be spoken in reverence for ever."

* * *

BABYLON reached its final years of prosperity as the city of Nebuchadnezzar. Two hundred years previously the disturbing menace of its great rival, Assyria, had been removed by the fall of Nineveh. It was still known as a seat of learning, religion and philosophy.

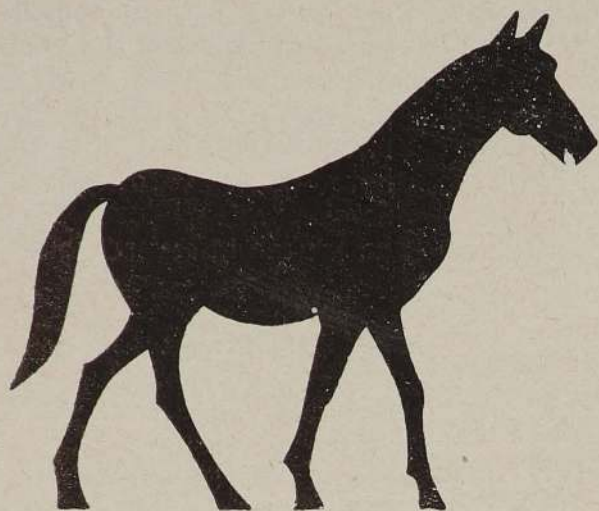
If Hammurabi's claim to fame rests on his unification of the country and his code of laws, Nebuchadnezzar, if his own words are to be believed, regarded himself as the architect of Babylon. He recorded almost everything he did in inscriptions on stone and baked brick. His style makes no concessions to modesty and in his writings he asks simply: "Is this not Great Babylon which I have built for the glory of my majesty?" Two Greek writers Xenophon and Herodotus pay tribute to its magnificence.

* * *

NEBUCHADNEZZAR lived in perpetual fear of invasion from the Medes and Persians. In consequence he had constructed for the defence of Babylon a succession of formidable obstacles or Maginot lines. These obstacles took the form of four walls, which with the rivers Tigris and Euphrates were regarded as unassailable barriers.

The inner town was laid out with great magnificence, with streets intersecting at right angles; some parallel to the river quay and others terminating in great bronze gates in the city walls or smaller ones leading to landing stages on the river Euphrates. First of all amongst these streets was the wide "Procession Street", down which the images of the gods were carried in the New Year's festival—the Champs Elysee of Babylon, whose famous Ishtar Gate on the north wall corresponded to the Arc de Triomphe and the main temple precinct in the south to the Louvre.

Before and after entering by the Ishtar Gate one passed vast palaces on the right. The second of these incorporated the world reputed "Hanging Gardens".



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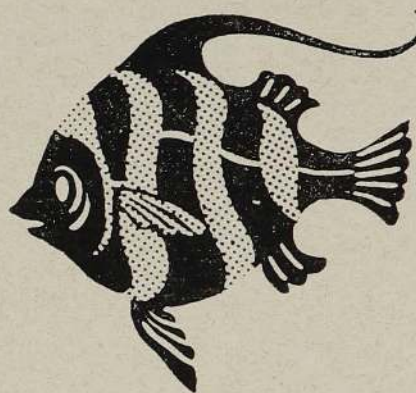
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KING SOLOMON BOUGHT CEYLON GEMS

By L. J. S.

(Special to the Fortnightly Review)

IN the days of King Solomon, Ceylon was a great emporium of trade in the eastern world. Ships ploughed the ocean waves to make their way to Taprobane and carried away precious cargoes to distant lands. These cargoes consisted of precious stones, spices, ebony, ivory, sandalwood, apes and peacocks.

It is on record that King Solomon's argosies made long and hazardous voyages to Ceylon to collect similar merchandise and the port at which his ships called was Galle, believed to be the Tarshish of the Bible.

* * *

WHEN the Queen of Sheba heard of the magnificence of Solomon's court, she journeyed from her far-distant land to Jerusalem to see for herself what had seemed to her like a fairy tale. When at last she had feasted her eyes on the grandeur with which Solomon had surrounded himself, she said to him: "The report is true which I heard in my own country, but I would not believe. Blessed are thy servants who stand before thee and hear thy wisdom."

Among the presents which the Queen of Sheba carried away with her when she left for her own country was a large quantity of precious stones which the great king's ships had brought from Ceylon. That was about 2,900 years ago.

In the "Arabian Nights", Sinbad speaks highly of the precious gems of Serendib (Ceylon) in his letters to his master, Haroun-al Rashid. The jewellery of the Sinhalese king at whose court he sojourned for some time appeared to him dazzling beyond words. Such was the reputation which Ceylon had earned in days now shrouded in the mists of antiquity, a reputation which still clings to the Island though in a much diminished form.

The decline in Lanka's fame as one of the great gem centres in the world is commonly believed to be due to the lack of initiative and enterprise on the part of those into whose hands this great industry of a past age has now fallen.

AT the present day there are about 700 mining pits operating in Ceylon during the dry season, mainly between Ratnapura and Balangoda. The stones found at these pits are said to be only segments of the masses of stones which originate in the rocks, mountain chains and valleys round about Adam's Peak. The untapped areas are believed to be a potential Golconda.

It is said that when the Portuguese invaded Ceylon, the Sinhalese took such extraordinary precautions to keep the treasure spots a secret from the invaders, that in course of time the Sinhalese themselves lost track of them.

The mining method now in vogue consists of digging a hole in the ground and sifting the soil so unearthed by hand. Many of the diggers allow the nail of one finger to grow like a claw with which they become expert at sifting small stones from the ordinary soil. The holes or pits are sunk some twenty or thirty feet into the alluvial plain until they come to a lower deposit called a "nillam". This is a primeval river bed with a hard stratum of pebbles interspersed with lumps of gneiss. Under these granite lumps are hidden accumulations of gems.

The commoner stones such as garnets, spinels and moonstones are obtained in good numbers, but the more valuable stones, such as rubies and sapphires, take a lot of coaxing before they are unearthed. Although Sinbad refers to the "diamonds of Taprobane", the chief gemming areas of the Island today do not boast of any finds worth shouting about. At Matara a variety of diamonds is still to be found, but these stones are said to be in reality white zircons.

* * *

THE sapphires found in Ceylon are highly prized. They vary in colour through blue, azure, indigo and grey to green, and so exquisite are some of them that upwards of Rs. 50,000 has often been paid for one. Amethysts, topazes, tourma-

lines and aquamarines are to be found in considerable numbers. The moonstone is a favourite among many people owing to the image of the moon which seems to be reflected in its depths.

The transformation of a crude stone into a sparkling gem of "purest ray serene" is accomplished by skilled lapidaries who use an age old technique.

To this Island, so richly endowed by nature, the sea too yields up one of its treasures, namely, pearls of great value. The pearl fishing of Lanka has been famous for close upon 3,000 years. Many centuries before the Christian era, Chinese writers praised the beauty and size of the pearls of Lanka, and the first mention of them in the Mahawansa is in the sixth century B. C., when King Wijayo sent his father-in-law presents of chanks and pearls.

A pearl is a secretion made by the pearl oyster to protect itself against an irritant introduced into its shell in the ordinary way. This has led to experiments by introducing a grain of sand into the shell to see whether it would produce a pearl. These experiments have been successful to the point where they did produce pearls of sorts, but utterly lacking in the properties common to the natural pearl.

* * *

THE pearl banks that have brought fame to Lanka are about 20 miles west of the mouth of Moderagam river on the north-west coast of the Island where the Gulf of Mannar may be said to commence.

The diving methods used until recently were the same as those described by Marco Polo who, in the course of his travels, visited Ceylon when a pearl fishery was on. The divers took to the water feet first as their forbears did before them, holding a rope to which a heavy stone was tied to speed their descent. The oysters were heaped in a basket or net hung round the neck of the diver who then jerked the rope as a signal to those in a boat on the surface and into this boat the diver was hauled up.

It is a fair surmise that King Solomon's presents to the Queen of Sheba included priceless pearls of Lanka.

PEOPLE

SIR Henry Moore, Ceylon's first Governor-General, entered a London nursing home last month for an operation. After a brief stay for convalescence in the Isle of Wight, Sir Henry returns to Cape Town at the end of this month.

Lady Moore, who has been having trouble with her eyes, was also operated on and her sight has improved.

* * *

MR. Douglas Budd Jansze, Q.C., has been confirmed as Attorney General. He acted as Attorney-General for three and a half years since the resignation of Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen, Q.C.

Son of Mr. Neville Budd Jansze, proctor of Kandy, he was educated at Trinity College, Kandy.

* * *

MR. H. A. J. Hulugalle, Ceylon's late Envoy in Italy, has returned to the Island at the expiration of his term.

* * *

AS forecast in "The Observer" (London) Sir Patrick Renison has been appointed Governor of Kenya.

Sir Patrick was private secretary to Governor Sir Edward Stubbs and for some time Assistant Government Agent for the Central Province at Kandy. He was an excellent rugger player.

* * *

MR. R. H. D. Manders, the last of the British Civil Servants in Ceylon, who left the Island on retirement recently, has settled down

at Milford-on-Sea, Hants, England, where many former Ceylon residents live.

* * *

SIR Hilary Blood, G.B.E., K.C. M.G., formerly of the Ceylon Civil Service, has been appointed to review the working of the present



Sir Hilary Blood

Constitution of British Honduras and make recommendations for Constitutional reforms.

Sir Hilary, who is sixty-six years old, joined the Ceylon Civil Service as a Cadet in January, 1920, and leaving the Island in the late nineteen-thirties became Governor of Barbados after World War II.

A SCIENTIST from Ceylon, Mr. N. N. de Silva, is studying the problem of keeping fish fresh at the world-famous Torry Research Station in Scotland. And, in his spare time, he is tape-recording the folk music of people in Scotland and other parts of Britain.

While Mr. N. N. de Silva is doing research work leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Aberdeen University, his wife, who is a doctor of medicine, is doing post-graduate work at Edinburgh University. She is on a Ceylon Government scholarship.

Mr. de Silva, who is 30, is a Colombo Plan student. A B.Sc. of Ceylon, he was research officer in fisheries bacteriology in the Department of Fisheries.

* * *

MR. R. P. Stewart, formerly of Messrs. Leechman & Co., Ltd., has moved from The Green, Wanstead, London, where he had lived since he settled in England three years ago, to his new home in Third Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex.

* * *

THE Very Rev. Brother Lawrence O'Toole, F.S.C., Assistant Superior-General of the Christian Brothers, arrived in Colombo by air on August 25th, having completed a visit to the missions of the Christian Brothers in the Far East.

He was to spend about a month in Ceylon visiting the chief centres where the Brothers conduct schools.

* * *

MR. J. H. Mortlock, former General Manager of the Bank of Ceylon and subsequently Manager of the Bank's London branch, is expected to open the London office of the Ghana Commercial Bank next month.

Mr. Mortlock left the Bank of Ceylon to become manager of the Ghana Commercial Bank in Accra.

* * *

AN External Affairs Ministry communique has announced that Senator N. U. Jayawardena (alternate delegate) and Mr. Nirmal Peiris (adviser) are additional members of Ceylon's delegation to the United Nations.

Mr. Jayawardena, former Governor of the Central Bank, is a member of the Planning Council and a Director of several Companies.

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PEOPLE

MR. Akira Matsui, Ambassador for Japan, who has been posted to Sweden, left Colombo for Japan with Mrs. Matsui on a short visit before taking up his new appointment.

Staunch Roman Catholics, Mr. and Mrs. Matsui made many friends during their stay in Ceylon.

* * *

SIR John Kotelawela, former Prime Minister of Ceylon, returned to the Island on September 5. He plans to return to the U.K. next December.

* * *

MR. Gamini Warnesuriya, one of the '43 Group's younger members who recently held an exhibition at Richman Gallery, Melbourne, has been awarded the Perth Prize—the Australian painting prize.

He has been commissioned to do a mural for the Tea Centre in Melbourne.

* * *

A PIONEER of tourism in Ceylon, Mr. Bobby Arnolda (67) passed away on August 30. He had been ill for some time.

Mr. Arnolda began his business in 1927, with a Model T. Ford, one of Ceylon's first hiring cars, on hire purchase terms. At the time of his death his firm, Bobby Arnolda Travel Service Ltd., was one of the oldest of its kind in Ceylon and ran one of the biggest fleets of luxury cars and taxis.

He was a director of the C.W.E and organized its transport service.

During the last war he was responsible for introducing to Ceylon the producer gas plant to which most motorists resorted during the days of petrol rationing.

* * *

THE Rev. Fr. D. O. Filliponi, O.S.B., completed his 25th anniversary in the Priesthood, on August 25th.

He started his missionary career as an assistant at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy. Since then he has served as Parish Priest at Nawalapitiya, Wahacotte, Panwila and Nuwara Eliya before coming to his present parish, Peradeniya.

* * *

THE death occurred on August 31 of the Rev. G. A. F. Senaratne, the veteran Methodist Minister. He was the first Ceylonese to hold the office of Secretary of the district synod as chairman of the South Ceylon district.

In a reference to Mr. Senaratne in the press, the Rev. James Mather wrote: "In his long ministry of 48 years, which has been of unusual distinction, he served God and his country in many directions. His work in connexion with temperance, social welfare and reform, and his ministry as a pastor, evangelist, administrator and preacher will be long remembered."

* * *

MISS Hilda Mendis, Principal of the Training College for Women, Polgolla, Kandy, has left for the United Kingdom on a Colombo Plan Scholarship to study the organization and administration of training colleges. She will first be attached to the University of Bristol.

An old girl of Princess of Wales College, Moratuwa, Miss Mendis is a graduate of the University of London and a trained teacher. She

was on the staff of the Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena, and the Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya, before joining the Department of Education as Inspectress of Schools. She has been Principal of the Training College for Women since 1948.

* * *

A. E. F. writes on 31st August:— "I have just seen President Eisenhower pass on his way back after his dinner and T.V. appearance with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Macmillan, at 10, Downing Street. The car in which he drove, accompanied by the U.S. Ambassador in London, Mr. Whitney, passed only a few yards away from me and "Ike", looking amazingly fit and well, waved vigorously with both arms outstretched to the crowds lining both sides of the road.

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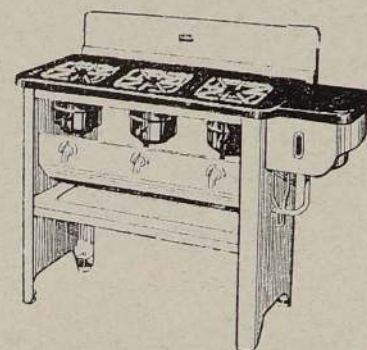
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LIGHT AND LIFE IN TRINCOMALEE

J.E.T.—A NAVAL RENDEZVOUS

—By DELORAINE FERDINAND—

THE cycle of the seasons has come and gone, and into the sheltered harbour of Trincomalee there assembled last month the navies of the Commonwealth countries. For it was the time of J.E.T.—or Joint Commonwealth Exercises and Training. Here the fleets of India and Pakistan, Ceylon and the British East Indies meet annually to hold their naval exercises in the waters off Ceylon's shores.

J.E.T. has been an event celebrated for the last ten years. The rendezvous has always been this naval station on the East coast of Ceylon. For before October, 1957, Trincomalee played an important role as an outpost of the British Admiralty, and the headquarters of their East Indies Station.

The story of how this came to be dates many decades ago when the island of Ceylon together with this picturesque town and harbour, passed into the hands of the British, on the 26th of August, 1795.

The fort occupied then by the Dutch garrison, which had held out against the invading British forces, was repaired and strengthened and the British troops went into occupation of the site. Records tell us that "temporary barracks" were erected for the comfort of the men. Officers were billeted in the lower town.

* * *

FOR many years Trincomalee remained the headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. Then in 1905, Admiral Fisher, who was the Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet at the time, for some reason closed the station. The flag was removed to Bombay. The basalt cliffs on which the batteries had stood were combed of the soldiery and barrack rooms were left empty and forlorn. Trincomalee slumbered—till with a change of policy of the government in England, in 1923, the dockyard was reopened.

Once again Trincomalee was to resound to the bustle and stir of big business, while work commenced on other permanent defences. As the base of the East Indies Squadron, this picturesque harbour came to be

annually visited by the fleets of the British navy. Old Admiralty House was reoccupied, and the town awoke to light and life again. Trincomalee had resumed its place as a strategic possession and a vital link in the naval chain of the Empire.

* * *

AS the years went by the means of warfare changed. The old forts with their bastions and turrets were found to be of little practical use. They were left alone to remain



—Times

Admiral Sir Gerald Gladstone
Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Navy's
Far East Station

mere historic landmarks of an age past. Cannon were dismantled from the batteries, the recesses of gun emplacements were invaded by armies of bats and vermin and deer wandered in to graze and roam at will. But in other ways Trincomalee as a valuable colonial possession continued to improve and expand.

The jungles were pushed back and the population of the town grew. Buildings and shopping centres emerged with roads and railways to connect it with other parts of the

country. Had Trincomalee been on the west coast, it would have been an incalculable asset to Ceylon. Still it continued to hold the vital place wiser men of an earlier age had cast for it.

With the changes of a restless 20th century, and through two universal wars, Trincomalee remained the pivot of the British Empire. It gave to the far flung units of her possessions a sense of security, while the flagship of the Eastern fleet continued to link this harbour with other East Indian Stations.

* * *

AT the end of the first World War the Naval Base was further improved on. It was provided with an airfield. Dry-docks and workshops with every modern engineering appliance were built. Wireless stations were set up and oil installations erected at great cost. Anti-aircraft defences and "Radar" occupied Trincomalee's hilltops and its peaceful coves and bays became the homing ground of large amphibious airships. This station was thus fitted to become in the second World War a "spring board" for the Allied naval forces.

But in this holocaust Trincomalee was not to be left unscathed. For as the first streaks of dawn ushered in April 9th, 1942, the banshee wail of sirens screeched—and the whirr of enemy Zeros converged in waves of formation over the naval station. When slowly the battle of the air drifted out over to the sea, it left a town shaken.

In those tense days, when hush hush military strategy wrapped the place, large fleets of ships anchored in the shelter of its waters. On one occasion the giant luxury liner of peacetime, the "Queen Elizabeth", converted into a troop ship, visited here.

* * *

WHEN the war was over—the town settled back to its tranquil state. No longer were its streets and suburbs seething with khaki and white clad military troops and ratings and never again was there to be seen in this large harbour such comparable concentrations of ships. The even tempo of life returned to this town with its limited impermanent population of government and naval personnel.

Shortly after the last war there was introduced a system of holding

(Continued on page 32)

NEW LOOK AT LONDON

IT'S DIFFERENT NOW, THEY TELL YOU

LET'S take it that you've been in London several days, and have already done the "Milk Round". You've seen the Tower, Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and Hampton Court. And so now you want some colour. Right. Take an Underground ride to Aldgate East, centre of the East End and clearing-house for the great city.

Here you can hear Yiddish spoken in a hundred different European accents and eat Kosher food in a hundred different restaurants. Here, in the East End, too, is London's Chinatown, with its little eating-houses watched over proudly by aged Orientals who remember, if they want to, the days when Tong warfare raged in the streets. It's different now, they tell you. They clasp yellow, gnarled hands over

their bellies and sigh. For good or bad, friend, times have changed.

But, first and foremost, the East End is the home of the London Cockney—that perky little fellow who calls his wife his "trouble-and-strife" and drinks "pig's ear" (beer) down at the old rub-a-dub-dub (yes, you've got it—pub).

He's the lad who took all Hitler could throw at him in '39-'45 and never once lost his cheeky grin, who always has enough strength to raise two fingers in silent comment. In the Cockney lies the true spirit of London.

* * *

A WATER-BUS from the East End—from the Tower of London, if you like—will take you back up river to Westminster, where you can stand on the bridge and look

about you. Wordsworth, the poet, did the same years ago, and then declared of the view: "Earth has not anything to show more fair." You'll probably agree with him.

A stroll along Whitehall (in company with hundreds of striped-panted, bowler-hatted civil servants), across Trafalgar Square (with its Nelson's Column and countless pigeons), and you'll be slap-bang in the middle of Soho. The name Soho comes from a seventeenth century hunting cry—"So Ho!" There you'll find representatives of every country in the world. Chinese live side by side with Spaniards, Italians with Indians, Danes with Greeks, Portuguese with Austrians—and so on. They go about their business quietly, preserving their individual customs and religions, yet harmonising in some strange way with the British scene and way of life.

Within Soho's square mile you will find hundreds of first-class little restaurants specialising in every imaginable kind of food.

* * *

WHAT else has London to offer?

Well, there are more than 50 "live" theatres presenting anything and everything from Shakespeare to strip-tease; there's Shepherd Market, in the very heart of the West End, which was really once a shepherds' market; there's Piccadilly Circus, where the lights dazzle and tempt you; there's Speakers' Corner, where you can get up on a soapbox and say anything you like—and the Law can't touch you; there are the open-air art exhibitions on the river embankment, there's Petti-coat Lane, where, they say, you can go in one end and buy your own watch back at the other; there's London Bridge, which shows no sign of falling down; there's the Royal Festival Hall, built for the 1951 Festival of Britain, and now the leading concert hall in all Europe; there's Bond Street, where the gown shops crowd each other to sell the latest creation of fashion; there's the daily Changing of the Guard, which, in colour and pageantry, out Hollywoods Hollywood; there's the Underground railway system, which carries two million passengers daily, and has been described as the "Eighth Wonder of the World"; there are double-decker buses, pubs, cinemas, girls, soccer matches, boys, fish and chips, cricket, lamplighters, buskers and tourists.

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IN LATIN AMERICA

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, TO LIMA, PERU

— By Rev. (Dr.) BRYAN De KRETZER —

(Fortnightly Review Special)

IN a few hours the modern traveller spans the two thousand miles and more between Rio in Brazil and Lima in Peru. The flight covers some known and occupied territory and much land still to be explored. Our flight, after the plane had left Sao Paulo, took us over vast areas of primeval forest, where primitives still aim their poison-dipped arrows at passing planes. Fortunately, we travelled at heights far beyond the reach of any who might make such an attempt and thick clouds hid us from sight!

Half-way across this strange and fascinating, and frightening land, the sky cleared and as we approached the Andes the clear atmosphere made the land seem much closer to us than it actually was; for we were flying at a height of over twenty thousand feet. As far as the eye could see, for miles around and below, lay the tortured and fantastic shapes of the Andean range. Apparently bare of any vegetation, red sand and distorted rock formations, rose in definite gesture to the sky.

* * *

OUR plane had now crossed the frontiers between Brazil and Bolivia and was approaching La Paz, the greatest city in Bolivia. The airport, 13,400 feet above sea level, is the "highest in the world used in regular air transportation". La Paz "is the commercial, industrial and educational capital of the republic, South American headquarters for tin, and one of the world's important sources of quinine".

We were now rapidly approaching Lake Titicaca, 12,500 feet high, in the Andes. A lake which must hold a strange and haunting fascination for all who have an interest in the rise and fall of the great Inca Civilization. For it was around these shores that the Inca civilization was spawned. From here, an ancient people went forth to conquer the tribes which inhabited the Pacific South American littoral. For two thousand miles and more, the Incas held sway.

By the middle of the fifteenth century their fine roads carried troops from North to South. They pioneered in many of the foods which now

form the staple diet of the world. At Cusco, the ancient capital, they laid the foundations of a bizarre culture which astonished the Spanish conquerors. Yet this powerful civilization was held to ransom, and finally destroyed, by a handful of adventurous Spaniards.

Today it is Spanish colonial culture which holds unchallenged sway in Peru and over most of Latin America.

* * *

ALL this in the mind's eye, as our plane swiftly traversed the miles across the Andes. Below us now some of the highest peaks in the Andean range, all of them well over twenty thousand feet high, many of them higher than any mountain in the North American continent. The pilot announced our arrival over the volcanic peaks of Ubinas and Misti. Misti's peak is clothed in cloud, but Ubinas stands clear to the sky. We fly past it and then over it and around it. Save in the plane, we gaze down

right into the crater belching out smoke, to remind us of the awesome fires which burn deep down below.

Over the top, and soon the first glimpse of the Pacific ocean and the coastline of Peru—Cradle of many ancient civilizations whose stories are lost in the dim records of time. Hard land, where the rain clouds seldom stay, but choose rather to travel up across the mountains to feed the forests of the Amazon. In Lima they told us that it had last rained in 1924! Yet in Lima the weather is mild and in the Winter when we arrived there it was pleasantly cool.

* * *

LIMA is a city of over three million peoples. Lima is also a city which is rich with the history of Spanish colonial history. Balconies richly decorative in design adorn the piazzas. Monuments to the heroes of the colonial age, Pizzaro, Bolivar and Martin serve to remind the inhabitants and the visitors of the drama out of which Latin American history and life were born. Museums preserve in stone, in brass, and in woven garment, the tale of the civilizations which once were, and now are no more.

(Continued on page 32)

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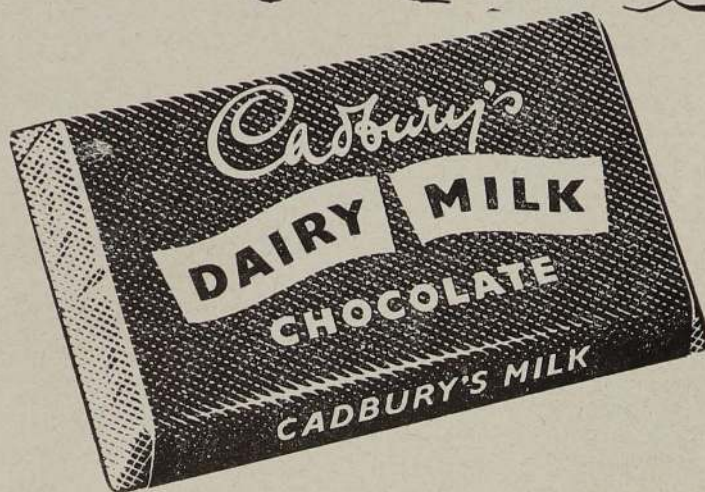
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THE PASSING SCENE

— By "SPHINX" —

NEW Zealand sailors of the frigate "Pukaki" who were in Colombo recently created history by making en masse a donation of their blood to the local Blood Bank. The offer was made by the captain of the vessel, Commander W. R. Williams, and conveyed to the Blood Bank by the Naval Attache of the U.K. High Commission, Captain Evans.

A little less than a pint of blood was taken from each and about fifty men gave their blood in about two and a half hours. After each extraction the donors were given a cup of tea each and advised not to smoke for ten minutes.

The crew of the "Pukaki" declined the usual honorarium of Rs. 10. The Blood Bank offered to make a contribution of Rs. 100 to the ship's welfare fund but even this offer was declined.

Some members of the crew of H. M. S. Laos were also associated with the blood donation.

* * *

THE fine gesture by the men of the "Pukaki" has inspired the idea of organising, through the U.K. High Commission in Colombo, regular blood donations of this nature by crews of visiting Commonwealth vessels to supplement local donations.

In addition to this gesture and their prowess at rugger (they met and defeated Colombo Clubs), the men of the "Pukaki" attracted attention with another distinction. "They have one of the finest exhibitions of tatoos afloat", wrote one newspaper reporter.

Most of the tatoo marks, he said, ran true to seafaring tradition—women in scanty clothes, anchors, vessels with sails on the biceps which blow out into full wind when the arms are bent. Many had the symbol of the vessel tattooed on them in the form of the Maori bird, Pukaki, which is also the name of a lake in New Zealand. One sailor had mementoes of his ports of call—names like Fiji, Hawaii, Singapore and Brisbane with the dates on his chest. Still sore with its newness was the tatoo: "Ceylon 1959". He had it done the previous night.

A PLASTIC bust of the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, was offered as a prize recently by a London newspaper columnist, "Peter Simple" of the "Daily Telegraph", but the offer is scarcely complimentary to Ceylon.

The "Way of the World" column of the newspaper carried, under the title "Free Speech", printed verbatim, the abusive exchanges between the Prime Minister and Mr. Philip Gunawardena (ex-Minister of Food and Agriculture) in the House of Representatives on August 7. It quoted the "Weekly Times" of Ceylon to describe Mr. Robert Gunawardena (brother of the ex-Minister) advancing with an uplifted chair in his hand and the ensuing remarks in Sinhalese of Mr. Lakshaman Rajapakse concluding with the expression "Balapitiya jadaya."

The columnist wrote: "Of this last objurgation, the 'Weekly Times' timidly offers no translation. A plastic bust of Mr. Bandaranaike will be awarded to the first reader to supply the deficiency."

The translation of the phrase used by Mr. Rajapakse was promptly supplied to the column by a Ceylon student in London but he has not received the prize. The "Telegraph" columnist informed him: "I regret to say the bust of Mr. Bandaranaike has been stolen by an admirer."

* * *

A NEW blend of Ceylon tea to help people to slim has been launched in the U.K. market. It is intended to be drunk without milk and sugar. Tetleys of tea bag fame are responsible for this attempt to "cash in" on the slimming craze in Britain. They claim that their "slender leaf" packet has been specially selected and blended so that milk and sugar which are starchy ingredients of a normal cuppa, tending to put on weight, can be dispensed with.

A new packet of unusual shape to catch the eye of the figure-conscious housewife is already on sale. Though recognized as "a fringe market seller", it is hoped

that it will add two per cent to the tea sales and it is pure Ceylon tea. The cost of launching this all-Ceylon blend on the highly competitive U.K. tea market is expected to amount to £50,000 during the first year.

* * *

MODERN Ceylon was the subject of a special 20-minute filmed report for "Panorama" on B.B.C. Television on September 7. This was the weekly news programme described by the B.B.C. as the "window of the world". The programme on Ceylon was the second of a special series of reports on Asia today.

In order to collect material for the programme, Mr. George Scott visited Ceylon with a "Panorama" camera team for nine days in August last.

The Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, who was among those interviewed by George Scott in the TV feature, said, on the subject of the nationalisation of foreign-owned estates, that nothing would be done for at least another ten years and no action would be taken that would cause injustice.

Mr. R. Singleton Salmon and Col. O. B. Forbes, Appointed Members of Parliament, also appeared in the programme. Asked what was the future of Europeans and European business in Ceylon, Mr. Singleton Salmon said he thought there was a good future for Europeans who would "fit in" but explained the difficulties of the new taxation measures. Col. Forbes described the present prospects for European firms as "rather bleak". He added: "If the people of Ceylon would work and get down to things, there would be every chance for their island."

* * *

TALENT scouts from Universal International Pictures are now in Ceylon looking for a girl who is both "exceedingly beautiful and sophisticated" to play opposite Marlon Brando in "The Ugly American" based on the novel by the same name by William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick which may be filmed in Ceylon.

And there is a chance for a young man between 25 and 35 who fancies himself playing counter to Brando and making it good. But he must be big and beefy and as volatile and vital as Brando himself.



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A MEMORABLE DUCK SHOOT

— By DOUGLAS RAFFEL —

(Fortnightly Review Special)

A FEW days before Christmas 1947, some men met at a party. It was one of several, during the season of Festivity and Fatuity, to which they had been lured by their wives and the promise of Whiskey at Thirty Rupees the bottle! Bored stiff after another year with its inevitable worries, with controls of varying degrees of irksomeness, with shortages of this, that and the other, and the threat of enhanced taxation to enable the Promised New Dominion of Ceylon to keep itself afloat, they soon found in themselves a bunch of kindred spirits, unhonoured and unsung, each nourishing a secret longing to do something, however desperate, to recapture the joy of living, which they had in abundance before Hitler decided to close that Polish Corridor! If you questioned each one in turn, he could not have told you what it was exactly his soul craved for. It was not at all surprising then that after sundry "pegs" and passes and feints, the stout fellows suddenly arose with a shout of joy, when one of them timidly asked his neighbour whether he had "Seen any wild duck recently"? "Gadzooks, No! George, you're a genius!"

* * *

ANOTHER little drink was indicated obviously, and before it was consumed a duck hunting trip was all but an accomplished fact. It was decided where they go to, how long they stay, what cartridges they favour—as being good hard-hitting ones,—and all transport and petrol problems solved. It was my very good fortune to be counted "in" on this halcyon holiday. On a certain Friday in January, 1948, we took the coast road to the South Eastern corner of Ceylon. Spirits rose as we sped along, W. at the wheel touching seventy M.P.H. at times. In spite of this we were soon poking fun at each other, and I am not ashamed to say that even doubtful jokes found favour! An early moon was shedding its silvery glow over Hambantota Bay when we reached this charmed spot, and it was impossible to resist the temptation of a dip in the surf before those preliminary "toots" and we did justice and more to the venison cutlets. And so to bed . . .

AT 4 a.m. we were up, fit and glowing, after sound sleep. Five nectarian egg flips went down our gullets better than "bubbly" and soon we were off with guns and cartridge bags to a Kalapuwa some miles away. We reached it in darkness, but very soon the first spangles of a rosy dawn peeked at us from the eastern sky, and searching the water with our binoculars, we found acres of duck feeding towards the southern shore, where the sea grass was. Plans were discussed and it was decided where the guns were to be placed to intercept the flights when they came, and we crept up to take our positions. I was cast for a reedy projection on the western shore, facing the rising sun. Flights would take that direction to reach a second patch of water behind me, when my opportunity would come—or so I hoped!

I took up my position as unobtrusively as I could. Before me in the placid waters was mirrored in opalescent tones an ever brightening firmament from which soon the sun would burst forth in all his fiery glory, and, I was afraid, shut out of my vision all duck which may come my way. Two guns had gone off to take up positions on the southern shore while the other two were on the northern and north-eastern edges of the kalapuwa. W. had said he would try to creep up as close as possible to the feeding ducks, on the off chance of a shot at as many sitters as possible. I waited smoking breathlessly, two no. 4s in the gun breech, cartridge bag ready, scanning the ducks with my glasses. They still appeared to be oblivious of our presence and numbered at least 2000 with no exaggeration.

* * *

"BANG" came a report from my right. W. had fired. A cloud of duck rose from the water and floated off towards the eastern shore, where after circling around two or three times, the majority of the duck settled down again. But little teams kept circling wider and wider, and two reports from the N. E. corner sent a few over in my direction. The sun got into my eyes just then and

the next I saw of the duck was a pair heading straight for me and about 40 yards away. Up went my barrels and I fired both. I was rewarded by my first shot hitting—and a gargeny described a perfect arc and came to rest at my feet—the second being a miss. Several "bangs" on the other shores set all the duck up again and the fun was fast and furious while it lasted for over twenty minutes. I missed about five shots and then scored a double, both birds falling into the water. I waded out and retrieved them, feeling very pleased with myself.

When the firing died down there were only about 500 ducks on the water on the furthest eastern shore. One of the party worked round in that direction and started them up again. By facing south I was able to get the sun out of my eyes and take the birds as they came fast over me. Long shots they were too, but I was able to add two more to my bag by 7.30 a.m. I had five ducks to show for 23 shots fired. I am not one bit interested in knowing whether this is good or bad shooting. All I was concerned with and thankful for, was the excellent sport I had had, the sheer joy I was experiencing of being in that lovely place, away from the cares of the world, breathing in the beauty around me and quickening to a thrill every time a duck came my way.

We foregathered on the northern shore and counted our spoils. Twenty two ducks, all gargeny. We saw no Pintails that morning, as that additional pleasure awaited us that evening at another Kalapuwa three miles away. And incidentally W. did not get that first shot at any sitting ducks. They were too far away he discovered. His first shot was at a singleton that rose and came his way, suddenly, and he missed, and cursed himself roundly.

Back to Hambantota for breakfast, with appetites made keener for the good things on the table by our exertions of the early morning. Then a delightful dip in the cool blue waters of the bay and a sun bath on the sands prior to iced beer and smokes and a yap. For lunch, well cooked, vitamin rich, country rice, after many years, with curries that included jungle fowl, tender and luscious, with its slightly "gamey" flavour, prawns, and a sambol that rivalled T.N.T.

A SPORTS CAUSERIE

By "ITINERANT"

Racing

"AUGUST" racing was resumed after one Saturday's strike-bound lay-off, and a new record was set up when the Arabs' "St. Leger", the Madras Cup, was won by Mr. D. H. Halahackone's Surety II for the third year in succession.

Surety II has not been running too well recently, and his legs have been suspect. Newly promoted bracket-companion Mansur Ruz, on the basis of his good Roberts' Cup fourth, was more fancied, but had to knuckle under on the post to the free striding Surety II. Passing the distance Mansur Ruz settled with Little Babu, Ibn Mirdas and Zaer, and looked all over a winner until in-the-neck-into-the-turn Surety II was shaken up by Baldwin Perera and responded to rip his bracket companion and have his victory confirmed by the camera. Ibn Mirdas finished third and Zaer fourth.

Mr. Vernon Rajapakse's spell of good luck continued and his record of a trophy a day was maintained when his Hyperama won the day's only other Cup race from Mascara and Sarracenia. Lucky Number won the Class I thoroughbred's Mordennis Stakes while Rawnag caused a bit of an upset in the last race of the day, the Menik Ganga Stakes. Trainer Renga Selvaratnam saddled a treble and Jockey Burkhardt rode a brace of winners.

* * *

The "Blues" Visit

THOSE likeable visitors from abroad, the Oxford-Cambridge Universities combined rucker team, concluded their Ceylon tour unbeaten and virtually unchallenged. With all types of ground and weather conditions coming alike to them, they brushed aside with consummate ease the best we could offer.

Sometimes our best fought, at other times they did not, but one thing was clear always. We just were not fit enough to match the pace of the visitors' game. They were a team who could "party" all night, yet turn up fresh the next day to run roughshod over local opposition.

It was their technique of hard running, fast backing up, swift passing and bewildering change of direction and movements that completely

befogged us. Theirs was a game geared to the fastest pace and we were found wanting. A game to that pace necessarily means special training technique and that the "Blues" have. They train with a full team playing an imaginary opponent, not with two teams playing each other. This means there are no stoppages and it follows that all fifteen have to be going at top speed. That is the first lesson the "Blues" had to teach us.

* * *

LESSON two we have to learn is that the best player in the world can be brought down by a good tackle. That is one of those fundamentals, which most Ceylon rucker players should know but still have to learn. Another fundamental they must learn too is that no player, no matter how good he is, can do it all alone. That means teamwork and teamwork means fast support and backing up.

These are the basic things we have to learn from the "Blues" tour. There are, however, many other things, which should be picked up, the refinements such as the perfectly "tapped" cross kick and the scrum-type formation that protects a successful line-out man. These were the trimmings, but if we make up our minds that basic principles and trimmings alike must be assiduously studied, practiced and followed, then the "Blues" tour would have been truly a success.

* * *

FROM Colombo, travelling eastwards went the "Varsities" XV. They played in Kuala Lumpur, then on to Bangkok where they beat a city XV 21-0 in heavy rain. Used as they are to playing in snow and slush and mud, the "Blues" are unlikely to have piled on very many more points under ideal conditions, which only goes to show that Thailand's rucker standards are probably appreciably higher than ours. The 34-0 victory over a Thai XV that followed, however, brought Thai standards within our reach.

The "Blues" left Ceylon feeling that Japan would offer them the greatest opposition, so there's yet another country that has a better standard than ours. But India, Malaya, Singapore, Thailand and Japan be

than Ceylon, are not that much out of our class. Perhaps an annual tournament for these Asian countries might do a lot towards improving their rucker and bringing their standards closer to that of the major rucker powers.

* * *

XV For India

CEYLON's team for the All-India Rucker Tournament at Calcutta has been chosen. Though Barry Cameron (who led Ceylon against the "Blues"), Chris Bean, Neville Leefe and Ken Macpherson were not available for the tour, the team is nevertheless a strong one, ably led by Ashley Cader, and with the "Blues" tour under its belt should acquit itself favourably in Calcutta.

The team is: L. Almeida, J. Boyd-Moss, A. Cader, K. de Joedt, A. Drieberg, C. Ephraims, D. Ephraims, G. Garnier, R. Harrison, F. Jacob, D. MacRae, D. Madugalle, T. Muttiah, A. Paiva, T. B. Pilapitiya, K. Rambukwella, R. Sri Nissanka, A. R. D. Tait and P. M. Waring. Mr. B. Mills will manage the travelling party.

Ceylon's representatives were chosen after a "Trial" match in which the Barbarians confounded the selectors by beating "Ceylon" 21-18. On the basis of performances in that match, Gauder, Brohier and Ian Gunawardena must consider themselves unlucky to be left out; Gauder, however, it must be pointed out muffed his chances against the "Blues" Paiva, Garnier, Harrison and D. Ephraims must, on the other hand, consider themselves lucky.

* * *

THE Services, unable to raise the funds necessary, will not go to Calcutta but they have one player—the RAF's Morgan—who must consider himself unlucky not to have been chosen for the Ceylon trials. The Services however did make a strong effort to raise those funds. They organised two matches which provided interesting Rucker. In the first match H.M.N.Z.S. Pukaki beat a Colombo Club XV 17-9 and in the second match H. M. A. S. Tobruk beat the Affiliated Clubs' Champions, the Police, 14-3. Both ships' teams included a number of good rucker players, and hence it was a pity the Combined Navies' teams' match versus the Combined Services did not come off. In the only other major match of the past fortnight, the Old Royalists convincingly beat the more fancied Old Trinitians 22-11, the Trinitians playing a surprisingly all-thumbs game.

Athletics Records

IT was a record-breaking National Athletic Championships that was held at the Oval, no fewer than five National marks (including two All-Comers marks) going by the board on the fast track.

The women stole the show at this meet, with the highlight being the Ladies College vs. Aces 4×100 metres relay. Ladies led into the last lap, by Lorraine Ratnam made up the lost yard and went on to ensure an Acres' victory by a couple of yards. Both teams smashed the week-old previous record of 51.6 secs., clocking 50.7 seconds and 50.9 seconds. The All-Comers' record was also broken.

Lorraine Ratnam earlier won the 100 metres and followed it up by smashing the 80m. Hurdles mark. Her 13 second timing earned her the Best Performances Award for women. Another woman record-breaker was young Rukmani Vethanayagam who cleared 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in the High Jump, only injury preventing her from attempting noble Kiel's unratified 5' 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mark. This schoolgirl completed a double winning the Long Jump as well. The only triple winner however, was Nilmini Alwis who won the women's Putt Shot, Discus and Javelin, the former with a record 30' 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ " throw, which, though, falls short of her unratified mark of 31' 3".

* * *

BEST performance of the meet went to school boy Vijita Wijesekera who won the award for the second year in succession, clocking the 110 in. hurdles in 15.7 seconds and beating the Ceylon and All-Comers' 13-year-old record. Other good performances in the meet were by St. Sebastian's Sena Wijenayake in the 800 metres, V. G. Wambeek in the Javelin and Nimal Fernando in the 400 metre hurdles. Wijenayake ran a very badly judged race, nevertheless being timed in 1min. 58.2s., only .1 second off the record; 0.7 seconds off the record was Nimal Fernando, and this after running a strenuous 400 metres flat; while Wambeek's 188' 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " throw was a very good effort and marked yet another of the many triumphs by those newcomers to Athletics, the Ceylon Track and Field Club.

Notable absentee at the meet was Ceylon's best middle distance member, A. S. M. Khan, who fell ill on the journey down.

The Hockey Nationals

LOOKING back on the Hockey Nationals, local sports enthusiasts can feel proud of the standard the game has reached here, but must feel ashamed of the half-hearted support the majority of them have lent it.

Right through the festival week, the hockey served up was of the highest order. Most of the "name" players continued to show improvement, while outstation XI's such as Matale, Kandy and Uva fielded youthful teams which promise much for the future. Ratnavibushana of Kandy, Lafir of Uva and Rupasinghe of Matale are three names to note.

One thing however the tournament revealed in unfavourable light and that was the playing of reputed players in positions quite unfamiliar to them. This business of making positions for players must stop if the game is to improve.

After the promise shown in the nationals, however, there came a sad let-down, when selected CHF XI's met Navy teams from the Jet Exercises Fleet. Skippering these teams was ex-Olympian Nandy Singh of India. Three matches were played. In the first, the weakest of the CHF XI's met a combined Navies' team but after having the better of the exchanges were held to a 2-all draw. In the next two matches, the INS Mysore met stronger CHF teams and won 3-2 and 4-1. Whereas the Navy teams improved with every outing, the local teams appeared to deteriorate progressively, these symptoms of lethargy being positively apparent in the last match.

This sudden deterioration the CHF must stop and begin soon the long drawn-out process of National team-building.

* * *

M. J. Robinson Wins N.E.G.C. Title

THE thirty-six holes final of the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club Championship was decided on Sunday, 6th September, when the R.C.G.C. golfer, M. J. Robinson, defeated R. I. H. Scott by 4 up and 3. It was a very creditable win as the Up-country player had established a lead of 3 up in the morning round. Robinson took full advantage of Scott's weak putting which lost him two holes—the 31st and 33rd, at a crucial stage of the match.

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Dan Piachaud in Canada

THE old Thomian all-rounder and Oxford "Blue", Dan Piachaud, has proved a great success as a bowler in the M.C.C. tour of Canada. In the three-day Test between the visitors and Canada, played at Toronto, in the first week in September, Piachaud was in devastating form, taking 7 wickets for 32 in Canada's second innings and contributing largely to M.C.C.'s easy victory by ten wickets.

* * *

Billiards Title

FOR the third time in four years the Ceylon Billiards title went across the Palk Straits when India's T. A. Selvaraj beat local Champion M. J. M. Lafir in the final 1333 to 1175. Selvaraj's highest break of 132 was the tournament's high, but below his own Ceylon record of 142. In winning, Selvaraj achieved a measure of revenge for his defeat in the earlier Snooker final which Lafir annexed quite comfortably.

* * *

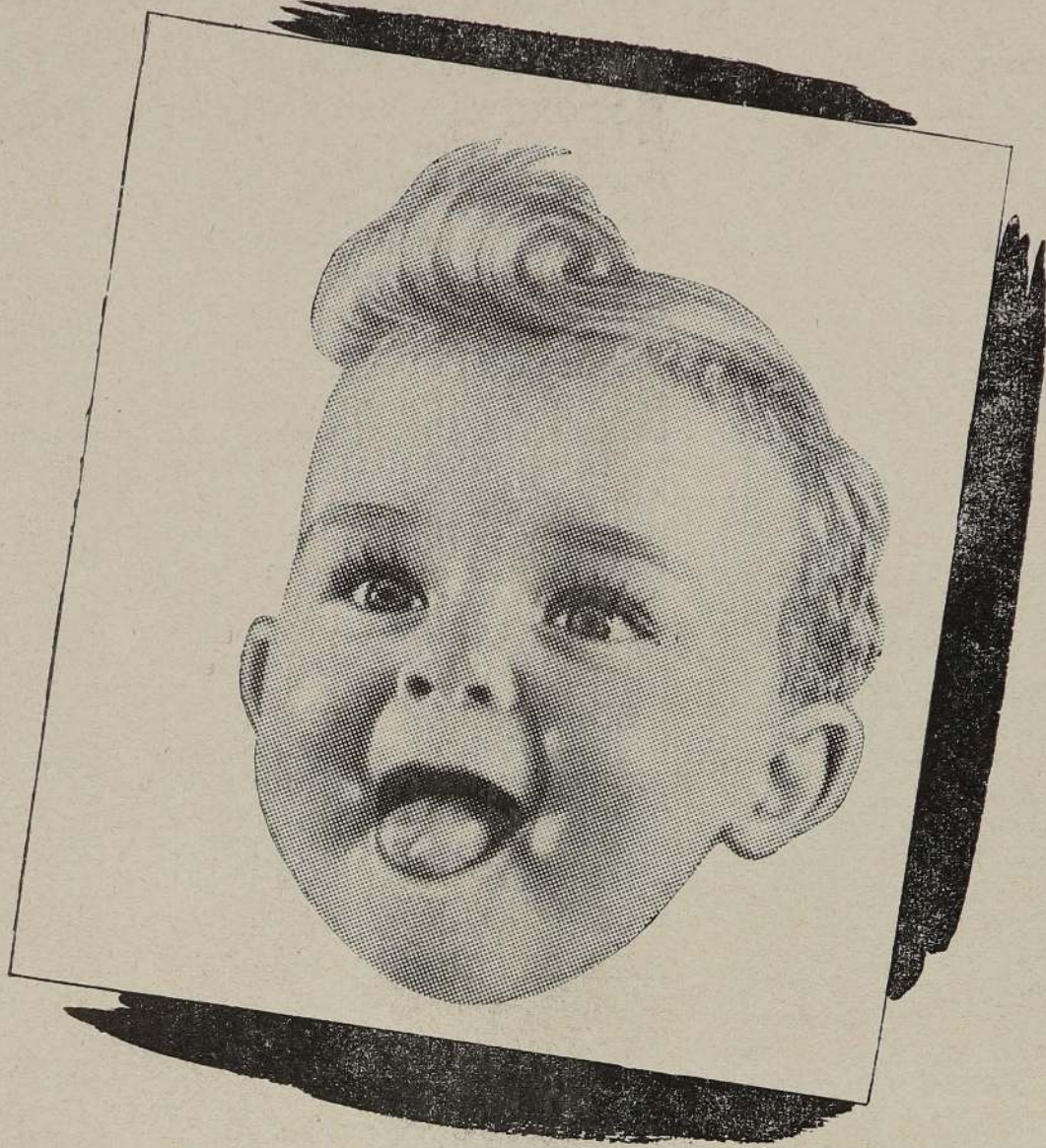
YET another swimming pool is now available in Colombo with the opening by Sir John Kotelawala on September 10th of the S.S.C.'s magnificent new pool. We hope it won't be too long before we have S.S.C. teams in aquatic Sports.

* * *

Death of a Great Cricketer

COLLIE Smith, the brilliant West Indian Test batsman, died in a hospital in England, on September 10th, following a car crash in which two other West Indian cricketers—Garfield Sobers and Tom Dewdney—were injured. His death has cast a gloom over cricketers throughout the world. Collie, who was born in Kingston, Jamaica, on May 5th, 1933, scored centuries in his first Test against both Australia and England—104 against Australia in 1955 and 161 at Birmingham, in 1957, against England. Smith played in all five Tests against England that year, scoring 396 runs, and averaging 30 per innings. He had altogether appeared in 26 Tests, scoring 1331 runs with an average of 31.

Along with Garfield Sobers, Collie Smith helped the West Indies to go a long way towards building a side to be feared as much as were the Caribbeans when Everton Weekes, Frank Worrell and Ciy de Walcott were at their best.



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It is the Food of Ceylon Babies

A WOMAN'S DIARY

BRINGING UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GROW

By ANNE

THE cinemas these days are more heavily patronised than ever before, and little wonder too, when there is no other regular entertainment to be had. On Saturday nights, in particular, even the late shows are crowded out. So I was all the more surprised to find an almost empty house when we took our young daughter to see what we thought was one of a favourite series: "Andy Hardy Comes Home".

Now, the Andy Hardy films are not the type that any film critic will rave about, but they are pleasant, wholesome films which the average family will enjoy. For one thing, they are made round an average family facing the ups and downs of life, and they have a high moral tone without being too "goody-goody". It is the sort of picture that father, mother and children can all enjoy together.

We did, but looking at the empty seats around us, I wondered whether this type of film has lost its appeal now that "horror" films (titles like "The Fiend Without A Face", "The Hooded Cobra", "Monster From Outer Space"), are so popular, as are films centering round rock 'and' roll and calypso. If so, it is a pity.

* * *

CHILDREN today are so exposed to unrest and disturbance and sensation, even to corruption. Standards have fallen. Discipline is lacking in all walks of life. Old-fashioned virtues like honesty, dependability, courtesy, the courage of one's convictions and respect for other people's beliefs, seem to be discounted all too often. So it is very necessary for children to be exposed to good influences whenever possible. I shudder whenever I see advertisements of films dealing with 'teen-age gang warfare in present-day America. That is a sorry spectacle peculiar to the American scene and I cannot understand why these films are inflicted on us. We do not, thank goodness, have such

extreme problems of juvenile delinquency yet—why import films about them? But the Andy Hardy type of picture has an universal appeal and a wholesome influence.

For the same reason, I heartily approve of Enid Blyton's books, which many parents regard as a blight because children tend to bury their noses in them to the exclusion of all else. Enid Blyton's authorship covers a wide range, starting from the nursery books about Mary Mouse and Noddy, going on to the Red and Blue Story Books and leading up to the school stories about Mallory Towers and St. Clare's, and the adventure books about the "Five" and the "Secret Seven".

* * *

I'D much rather my children buried themselves in these books than in some of the stupid comics one sees around today. They are well written and attractively illustrated and they all have the great merit of conveying that obedience, truthfulness, kindness, self-reliance, industry, thoughtfulness, politeness, are virtues worth cultivating; that it is important to play fair, to keep one's word, to own up, to keep a stiff upper lip: and that laziness, boastfulness, disobedience, selfishness, rudeness and unkindness are very undesirable traits.

There is no need to worry about children who read only Enid Blyton—they outgrow that phase.

Mothers are notorious worriers, but today's mothers have good reason to worry about certain aspects of modern life. One is the importance of money. That in itself is not new, of course, but what is new is the way it is evident among school-children today. Money was not flaunted twenty years ago the way it is today. Middle-class parents who, with difficulty, send their children to fee-levying schools (not out of snobbishness, but because they wish to give their children the best education possible), find that discontent is created when some children have so much money to fritter away.

* * *

ALMOST as soon as some children learn to read and to tell the time, they sport Parker pens and expensive wrist watches, which are quickly replaced when lost or broken. In certain big boys' schools, it is quite common for children to throw five and ten rupee notes about.

The girls' schools have their elaborate birthday parties which feature exquisite frocks, marvellous eats, lavish entertainment and gifts for all the guests. It is rather hard on parents who cannot afford all this luxury and who do not find it easy always to convince their offspring that life without such frills can still be good.

Rich parents sometimes unintentionally give their children too much. When children have shoes to match the colour of each frock, when there is unlimited pocket money to spend on comics and sweets, when there are cupboards filled with toys, the seeds of self-indulgence are sown. False values are imposed. Those who have all these things look down on those who do not, and the latter envy those who have.

Snatches of conversation I have heard among children have confirmed this impression. My daughter, speaking of a rich girl in her class, told me: "Our teacher asked A—to use her books carefully so that her small sister could have them later on, and A—said, 'Chee, Miss, she will have new books'". At a modest birthday party, one child looked round and declared: "Some party, this, not even prizes for the games."

Two girls were coming out of school and one said she had a music lesson that evening. The other said, "I wish I could learn music." "Why don't you?" asked the first, adding in a superior tone, "Can't afford it, I suppose!"

I was once present when a group of girls from a private school and a free school were playing. Said one from the private school, "Oh, Blank College girls are as poor as church mice." "We are poor but honest", came the prompt reply from one of the "free" school girls!

Much depends on us parents—how we bring up our children and what example we set them.

AIR CEYLON RECORD

AIR Ceylon's west bound plane (Super Constellation) took 46 passengers from Colombo when it left for London last Saturday.

This is the highest number taken in at Colombo by any air line.

LIGHT AND LIFE IN TRINCOMALEE

(Continued from page 21)

training exercises, or J.E.T., for the navies of Commonwealth maritime forces in modern anti-warfare and trade protection. J.E.T. came to be a recognised annual event. Its schedules covered discussions on past exercises and exchanges of ideas and experiences, as well as the organising of mock manœuvres out at sea.

For the few weeks of J.E.T. the serenity of Trincomalee is disturbed. The harbour, normally so quiet and dull, is active and colourful. A pretty picture is its dark blue bowl, twinkling with the innumerable lights of the fleets at anchor there. Swarms of white clad figures daily burst from the holds of the ships to engulf the shopping centres and enjoy what social amenities the town boasts of. The drone of motor launches carrying the sailors from ship to shore is heard throughout the day and far into the night.

During J.E.T. sports activities form an important feature and tournaments of Tennis, Hockey and Cricket are worked off with enthusiastic rivalry. Club and Ward Room Mess of the naval Station get rejuvenesced in this period. A wonderful atmosphere of carnival takes grip of Trincomalee. For J.E.T. provides an opportunity for new friendships to be made and old ones to be renewed. It is true to say that no other Commonwealth get-together is comparable with this annual event, and there is little doubt that as a naval and social occasion it is eagerly looked forward to.

* * *

IN October 1957, Trincomalee Naval Base changed hands. The colourful lion ensign of the Royal Ceylon Navy replaced the British Union Jack. But the joint exercises had so come to be looked upon as a traditional date by all navies who had participated in past years, that J.E.T. continued to be held. Trincomalee was recognised as the "finest venue" for naval activities and training and so was chosen as the rendezvous for the fleets. For at certain points the harbour is said to be unfathomable and is also deep even near the shore line. Thus it has been described as "one of the best natural harbours in the world—in which a whole fleet may safely ride".

Last month one might have seen in this harbour the pick of the Commonwealth fleets: 36 Warships and 8 auxiliaries from six Commonwealth countries, which had met together to take part in J.E.T. For the first time, too, ships of the Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand navies were participating. Thus this year the exercises have been described as the largest of the series yet held.

* * *

THE Commander-in-Chief for the Far East Station was responsible for drawing up the schedule for these exercises. But J.E.T., 1959, it is understood, was jointly planned and controlled by the national Naval Commanders participating in it. The Royal Ceylon navy played host to these maritime forces whilst they were at Trincomalee, and provided all base support and utilities.

The exercises commenced on July 25th and lasted for roughly a month. They were organised into three phases, covering training manœuvres out at sea as well as concentration at Trincomalee Base, where discussions on experiences gained and lessons learnt were to be had.

This year there was reported an unfortunate and sad incident which must bear reference. On August 26th while engaged in action on the north-east of Ceylon, a collision occurred killing one and injuring three men. While darkness was closing in, during the initial stages of a night manœuvre conducted 120 miles off Ceylon—the British destroyer "Hogue" and the Indian cruiser "Mysore", flagship of the Indian navy, were in collision. The British destroyer sustained considerable damage, the Press report confirmed.

* * *

THE unfortunate accident takes my mind back to an equally disastrous mishap which took place two years ago, when the ships were returning from exercises outside the harbour. Steaming into their berths, a tanker which had accompanied the warships to refuel them when out at sea, struck a buoy, ripping open the ship's side. From the gaping hole gallons of oil began to squirt out—soon spreading the surface of the water with a thick scum. With the incoming tides the shore lines of the inner harbour and other back waters and coves of Trincomalee were black with the oil, the waves which lashed the

roads circling the inner bays, left behind a film of oil—even the salt breezes wafting over the town had the pungent smell of oil.

The navies assembled for J.E.T. this year finally dispersed on August 31st. One by one the ships weighed anchor and steamed away.

IN LATIN AMERICA

(Continued from page 23)

Outside the city, twenty miles away, are the ruins of Pachacamac. No one really knows its history. The ruins are pre-Inca. The walls of the houses lie half-buried in the sandy dunes, close by to the ocean's touch. High on the hillock is the Temple to the Sun. Far away below, the Temple to the Moon. It is easy to stand on the sacred soil of the Temple to the Sun, and people the ruins. Men buying and selling in the market place, women cooking their corn, priests offering oblations in the temple. A proud race of men and women, sure of themselves and certain of the future. And now, only the ancient walls remain to remind us of a past that could be our future!

* * *

WE spent the day with some missionary friends who had served with the Bible Society in Peru for over twenty years. Many missionary societies are actively at work, especially in the upper regions of the Andean mountain forests, among the primitive tribes. These peoples are as yet hardly touched by the modern life of the larger cities. They live as their forbears have done, in the forests. Missionaries who work among them endure many hardships. Only a few years ago, missionaries who had worked with similar tribes in Ecuador were all mysteriously killed. Today, the wives of the murdered men are working with the same tribes, and gradually winning their confidence and bringing to them the touch of love and learning!

Our hosts gave us tea. We discovered that tea plantations had been opened up in Peru quite recently. Our own vested interests in the future of Ceylon tea were disturbed. However, we were somewhat reassured by the comment of our friends that "Ceylon still produced the best tea in the world". Good, too, to realise that one way or another, the high quality of Ceylon tea was known and appreciated, in this strange and distant land of Peru.

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