

# The SEARCHLIGHT

38th YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT

VOL 36 NO. 15

COLOMBO

15th September 1957

## THE AGITATION FOR TOTAL PROHIBITION

**A** PROMINENT Ceylonese planter of Galle, much interested in the well-being of the estate labourer and the villager, accuses us of being 'anti-prohibitionist.' He says that a 'paper which pursues a policy so acceptable and praise-worthy as 'The Searchlight' in attacking social problems should be in the forefront of the agitation for total prohibition of arrack and toddy taverns in estate areas, and it ought not to hold up either the advocates of total prohibition or their cause or ridicule total prohibition.' He further says that the estate labourer and the village peasant are the mainstay

and the backbone of local industry and as such should be protected from the ruthless hand of the liquor-dealer.

Since there seems to be some misapprehension in regard to our policy in this matter, we wish to state that we are not by conviction or by belief anti-prohibitionist; nor are we in any way opposed to the general temperance cause. We are as sincerely interested as anybody in trying to rid this country of the vice and the demon of drink. But we are not prepared to applaud or support fantastic and futile

(Continued on page 13)

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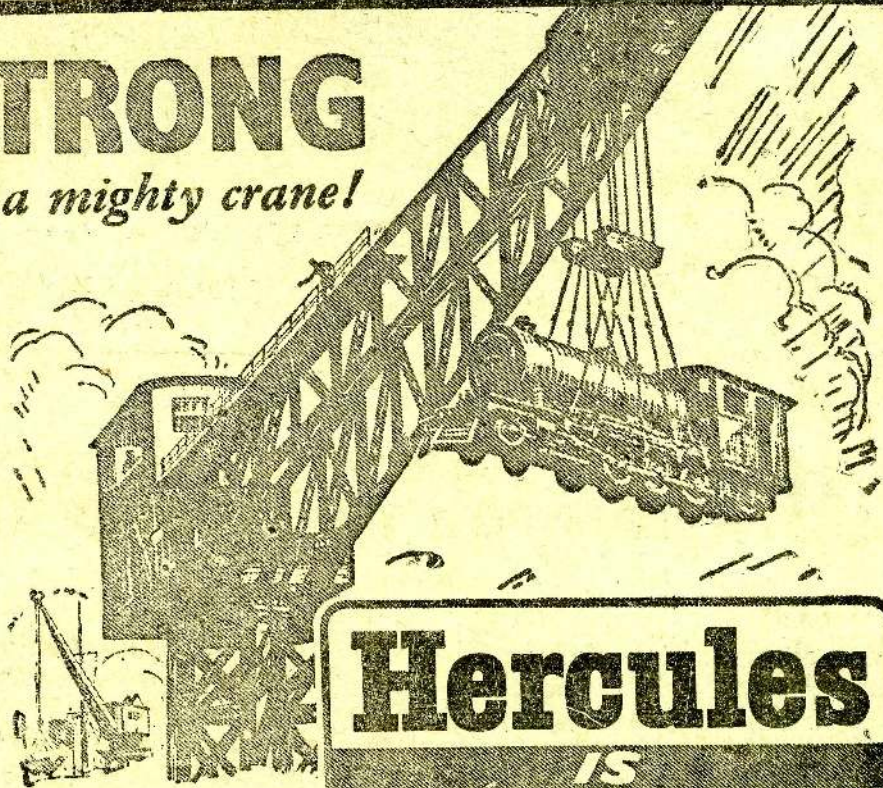
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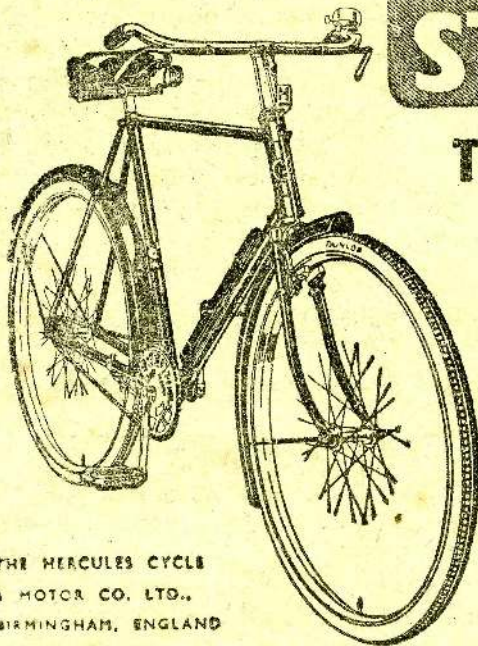
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# The SEARCHLIGHT

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Vol. 36 No. 15

COLOMBO

September 15th 1957

## WHITHER INDEPENDENCE ?

**W**ATCHING events from my arm-chair, the "PROGRESS" made since the days of the Donoughmore Constitution, is a downhill one. With universal franchise, a few candidates in the Sinhalese Electorates where the majority of the voters were and are still Buddhists, turned renegades and started to attend Bana preachings at Buddhist temples whereas their former places of worship were Christian churches. The franchise was an eye-opener to the candidates and to the voters as well. The former realised that each of them had all the virtues centred in them to work for the amelioration of the voiceless masses and were prepared to sacrifice their limbs, wealth, leisure etc. for that purpose. Some of the candidates did, as a matter of fact, sacrifice their wealth by mortgaging or selling their lands to contest elections and became sadder but wiser there

after. Most of those candidates did not hesitate to exploit class, caste, community or race distinctions and thus divide the people in their respective constituencies into so many factions. At election meetings they promised roads, bridges, schools, water-ways, the Sun, the Moon and the Great Bear. The rival candidates were not at all disheartened. They promised free lands and houses, employment to

BY D. L. WELIKALA

the able bodied, pensions to the aged, seed paddy to the cultivators etc. etc.

### FLEECING OF CANDIDATES

The voter, a knowing person, had his own plans whilst the going was good, that is, until the day of the elections. He started with an application for a loan only of Rs. 100/- on a promissory note to redeem his residing house from

a mortgage. He required only that small sum, the balance having been collected over a period of some years and lying safe in the village Post Office Savings Bank, and, produced his Pass Book in support of his application. The candidate dared not refuse this application as that voter could as per his sworn word—command at least two hundred votes amongst his and his wife's relatives.

The other voters were not far behind, literally and truly. One wanted the loan of the candidate's car to attend a wedding or a funeral or to take his sick wife to hospital. Another voter invited the candidate for his grand daughter's ear-boring ceremony which meant two pair of gold ear studs or an envelope with a currency note or two in it.

This sort of blackmail went on until the very day of the elections. The unsuccessful candidates thereafter retired into their shells whilst the calls on the winner were renewed more vigorously.



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## THE PARTY SYSTEM

This sort of lone hunting often aided by friends or thwarted by rivals went on until the party system was introduced with the Soulbury Constitution. D. S., the first Prime Minister guided his heterogeneous Cabinet with a firm hand and did a lot of useful work. His tragic death was the forerunner of a period of intaigne in his own party where political gambling beginning with the Premier Stakes' was indulged in, in a manner which any self respecting bucket shop keeper would have despised. However public opinion being strong the mantle fell on saintly Dudley who found it weighed heavily on his shoulders and he fell ill (or should I say sick?) After Dudley's resignation the gamble was won by the not so Saintly Kotelawala K was the showman of the Government and as such he started touring this country and the World collecting garlands, medals, orders, honours, black swans etc. etc. On his return from

foreign trips, his admirers mobbed him at the air port with more garlands and on one occasion, with a gold chain and was acclaimed the Hero of Baddung. It is not quite clear what heroic act he performed at Bandung except pointing his forefinger (as shown in the press photographs) at the Chinese Envoy.

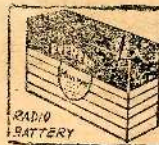
### MR BANDARANAIKE EXPLOITS THE "SINHALESE ONLY" STUNT

In the meantime ambitious Bandaranaike was making hay with a band of Communists, revolutionists Buddhist monks his friends, and K.'s enemies. K. realising his danger, started a campaign of his own. He toured North Ceylon to start with, going from town to town in a specially decorated chariot drawn by a pair of huge Indian bulls and driven by a Knight of the Realm and pro-

mised parity of status for the Tamil Language, irrigation channels, lands to colonise etc. He crossed over to Delft evidently inhabited by people with a sense of humour, and they, the Delftians set up a throne probably with palmyrah rafters placed a makeshift crown on his head and acclaimed or proclaimed him as the Emperor of Delft. On his return to the South he found that B. had gained much headway with "Sinbala Only" cry and that within 24 hours a feeble attempt was made at Kelaniya by K. and his camp followers that he was for 'Sinbala only' but the people were not prepared to pay heed to this new policy as K. utterances in the North were still ringing in their ears, and knowing that every time K. opened his mouth, he put his foot into it. A last minute declaration of a gift of Kandawala to the poor orphans of Ceylon also fell on deaf ears and the land slide at the General Election was the result. I believe that Kandawala is still the property of one rich orphan.

### SUCCESS OF THE FREEDOM PARTY TURNS M B's HEAD

The victory of the Freedom Party, now calling itself the M. E. P. seems to have turned B's head. He is too busy settling world affairs whilst the members of his heterogeneous (Achocharu) Cabinet are quarrelling amongst themselves. Millions of rupees have been wasted on world tours, useless embassies and all sorts of tamashas in the name of Buddha Jayanti.



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The Language Problem is still whera it began. B. and Dahanayake have given one interpretation to the Horagolla Treaty; the Federalists say that interpretation is wrong and in spite of these contradictory statements, the text has not been made public as yet. Even the single letter SRI on motor vehicles is still an unsolved problem.

**THE WORKERS DICTATE**

The unsettled state of the country can be gauged by the number of strikes. Hardly a week passes without news of some strike or other. Today the servant dictates and the master says 'yes.' School children strike and ask for the transfer of the head teacher,



instead of the head teacher striking the pupil at the place provided by nature. The dismissal of an unsatisfactory worker, whether he wears briefs, or long banian or white collar is an excuse to demand higher wages, shorter hours, more holidays and pension rights. These strikes are invariably settled with terms to suit the workers demands untill the next strike. Such terms of "settlement" are not unexpected as the workers have more votes than the employers.

Education, medical services (Western and Aurvedic), food production, unemployment, postal services are deteriorating at a rapid rate due mostly to each political party and each trade union being suspicious of one another.

**THE SLY ENTRANT MENACE AND THE PADDY BILL**

Boatfuls of South Indians arrive illicitly to be pushed into our shores neck deep or waist deep. Some of them get drowned, a few are caught and many escape into the jungles of our seaboard and mix with their compatriots. When in the Opposition B. said that he could not sleep soundly untill the last Indian had left our shores! Now he is silent on that matter since he came into power. Why not send them back, not through the usual channels, but along the channels they landed here and push them out of the boats on the other side when neck deep or waist deep? Such a step will conserve our food supplies to a certain extent whilst relieving

unemployment to the same extent.

The Government has formulated grand schemes to asweddumize thousands of acres for paddy in many parts of the Island, but a week's delay of an expected foodship causes panic and two weeks delay means starvation. The latest venture in food production is to give the lion's share to the cultivator as if such a process will increase the quantity of paddy from a particular field.

**WHO WILL BE THE NEXT DIYASENA ?**

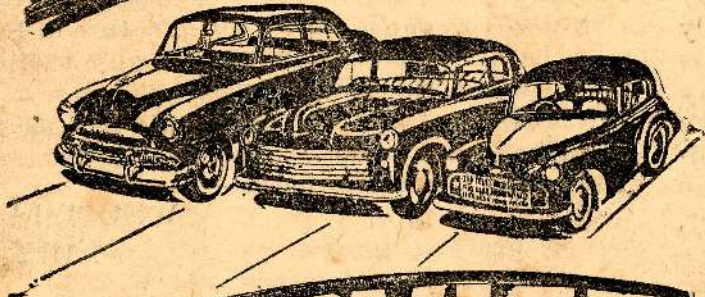
Another outcome of our Independence is the slackness in many Governments offices. With the trade union rights, indifference on the part of peons upwards, is quite patent Heads of Departments seem to resent interference and dictation or fault finding by Ministers placed above them by fickle fortune. That was not so in the Colonial days when favouritism was almost unknown and the officers feared and respected the Big White Chief.

One blunder of miscalculation threw Anthony Eden out of Office and made him seek a rest-cure. Sir John K. is back again but he is giving up politics to the misfortune of the English foxes. Dudley is out to clean the U.N.P. stables. I hope he will be able to do so. Who is going to be the next Diyaseena? Will B have a second innings? Then how about J.R., Philip, N.M. or Dudley? These are many weighty questions whilst the country is going to the dogs.

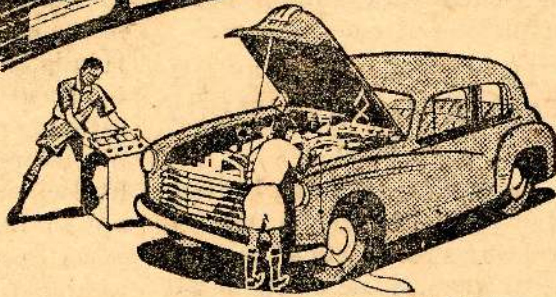
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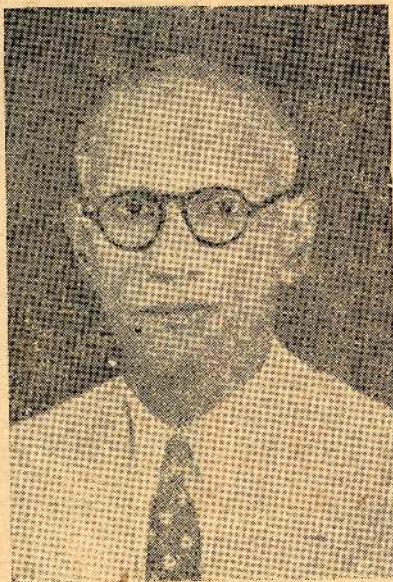
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## 35 Courses Have Photo Finish

Another illuminating example of progress under Jockey Club direction is to be found in the Race-finish camera service. The camera was the first used officially on a British Race-course at Epsom Spring Meeting in 1947, and the first picture called for by the judge was of the finish of the Great Metropolitan Handicap to help him to decide second place.

By the end of last year (1951) the camera was installed on 35 Courses, and three more—Bogside, Ripon and Salisbury are expected to come into operation this season. This will leave only eight—Beverley, Chepstow, Chester, Lanark, Lewes, Lincoln, Liverpool and Stockton still without



Mr. S. C. Fernando  
Judge C.T.C.

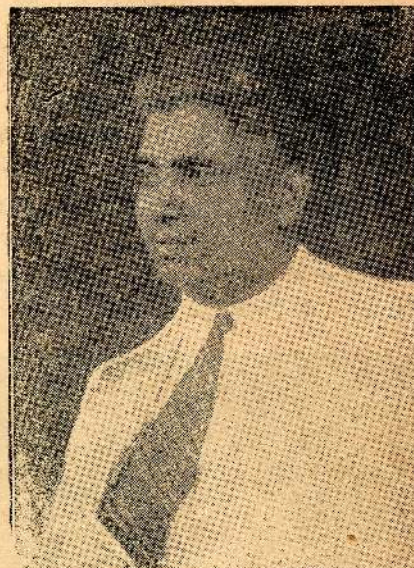
the camera. Progress would have been much quicker but for the fact that building licences required were not always obtainable when first applied for. Building costs have in each case, been met from the fund established by grants from Totalisator surpluses. Actually the camera would have been used for the first time at Birmingham on 8th April, 1947—had the Meeting not been abandoned. It came into operation at both Newmarket courses that year, the Rowley course on May 12th and the July Course at the first summer Meeting. Tracks on which it was operated for the first time last year, are Bath, Catterick, Carlisle, Hamilton, Hurst Park, Pontefract, Windsor, Wolverhampton, and Yarmouth.

### RACE FINISH HELPS EXPORTS

One might truthfully say that this Race-finish camera is a Jockey Club product. The Club appointed a sub-committee in 1944 under the Chairmanship of Sir Percy Lor-

aine, "to investigate the uses of photography in the judging of races and to consider the problem to be solved." The following year the committee reported that what was needed was a camera in which 'the film travels through the focal plane behind a narrow slit and adjusted to the speed of the horse passing the finish line'. They recommend that a 'continuous Strip' camera should be built and tested throughout a season of racing. The recommendation was adopted. The Race Finish Recording Company formed, and, after much expenditure of time and money, the approved model produced.

And now the British designed, British made, and Jockey Club financed Race finish camera is recognised as the best of its kind in the world. It is being operated on Irish and French Race-courses, as well as British on innumerable greyhound tracks, and other race meetings as far apart as



Mr. C. Wijesinghe  
Winner of Five Robert's Cups

Oslo, Calcutta, Cairo, Bombay, Johannesburg, Hong Kong and the Bahamas. It was used with complete success at the London Olympic Games in 1948 and those at Helsinki in 1952 and in one instance it proved five experienced athletic judges to be wrong.

*News Chronicle Racing Annual 1955*

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# Review of the August Race Meet 1957

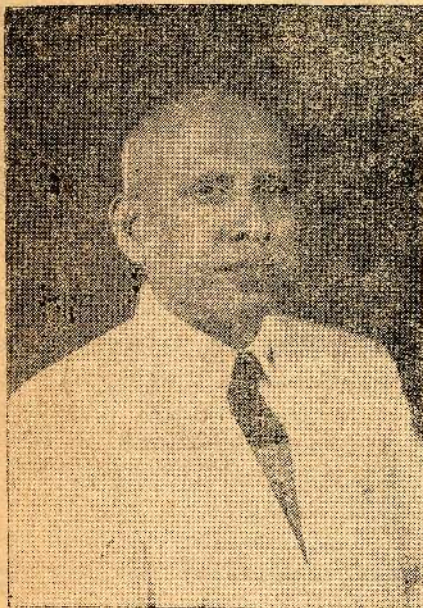
JOSHUA'S SPARKLING VICTORY IN THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CUP

BY A B G.



ON the crest of a wave of unparalleled enthusiasm Ceylon Racing touched its peak in post-war racing with the AUGUST MEET conducted by the nation's premier racing institution and which was brought to a happy ending in brilliant sunshine. The Meet was one of the best witnessed. The genial and affable Secretary, Mr. Eric de Soysa, ably assisted by the Executive Staff left no stone unturned in making it a scintillating success.

There was a mounting tide of enthusiasm during the Five Day Meet which set a high tone



Mr. A. R. M. Zarook

in Ceylon Racing, a distinct improvement on the past. The holiday crowd enjoyed the racing and were in exuberant spirits to the end. The absence of the State Drive, the morning dress and toppers were unfelt.

The feminine element was in their latest creation of 'haute couture' gliding against the background of lush green turf and beautiful flower beds on the lawns of the Turf Club. The fashion parade among the fair sex was worth going a long way to see. Such were the magnificent scenes observed on Cup Day.

The racing public acknowledge their sincere thanks to the CTC for the splendid arrangement, and everything done for the display of

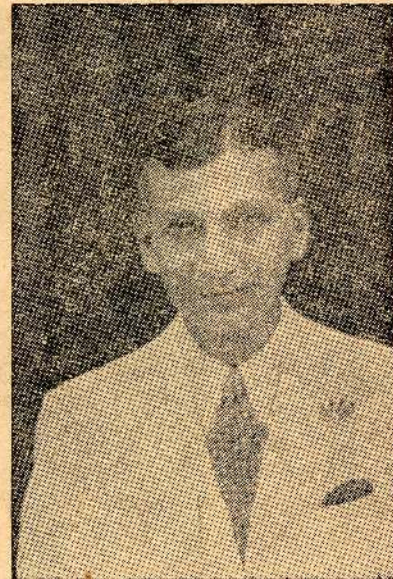
clean sport and healthy rivalry. The attendance

to the various enclosures was encouraging despite the prohibitive admission rates which chilled much of the on the course enthusiasm. The Track was hard as nails due to the scorching sun. The fields were not too well supported when compared to the previous August Meets. What could be the

contributory causes? An early remedy is called for else Ceylon Racing is bound to lose its savour. Let's hope the Trainers will give this matter their best consideration.

Thirty Nine Races were run during the five days. Nineteen trophies were offered i.e. C. A. Laing Cup-Lawyer's Cup-Channer Cup Robert's Cup - Colombo Bank-Shroff's Cup-W. M. Rajapakse Cup-G. N. G. Walles Cup-Governor General's Cup-Stewards Cup-R. W. I. T. C. Cup-W. B. Bartlet Cup-Madras Cup-Galle Cup-O. E. G. Cup-Laxapana Cup. The Colombo Cup-Bandaranaike Cup-E. L. F. de Soysa Cup and the A. E. de Silva Cup.

The off-course punters have to depend entirely on the version of the Bookmaker for their information in the absence of the racing commentary. Whether or not the racing commentary is made available to the racing public still the rapacious Bookmaker carries on his business on a lucrative scale and is responsible for many scandalous and diabolical coups carried on to side-track the punters.



Mr. Eric de Soysa



One instance may be cited. On the Fourth Day of the Meet there was a scare of the scratching of Mr. Vernon Rajapakse's SHELL PINK in the O. E. G. Cup Race, when the majority of the punters went nap on Joshua. This diabolical coup had a devastating effect and many ALL ON'S, LUCKY FIVES and TREBLES going down the drain. This is, indeed, a very sorry state of affairs. It is high time that in the interest of the off course punters, the authorities considered the feasibility of releasing the scratchings as in the days gone by and also resuming the racing commentary.

The cream of Ceylon's Bloodstock faced the barrier, competing for valuable and treasured prizes offered. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CUP took pride of place. Although the field was reduced to nine thoroughbreds, it certainly had a touch of class. The contenders were perfectly keyed up and fit as bands could make them as they faced the barrier. All of them holding excellent credentials proved beyond doubt that they were stayers of no mean repute.

The racing public saw the progeny of rival champions clash and carry the battle for honours which their forbears began years ago. These champs joined and made the his-

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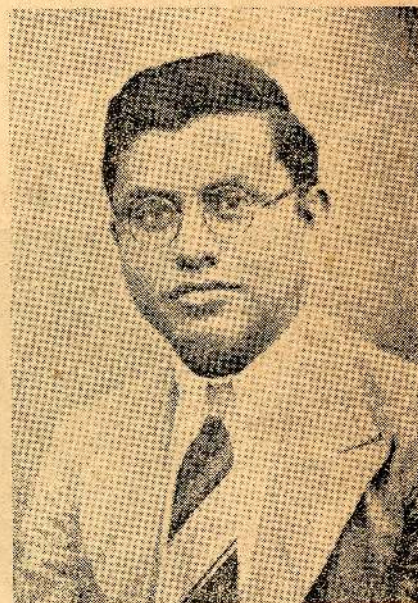
EXCELLENT CUISINE  
BAR AND BILLIARDS

**Norris Road, Colombo**

toric race, the BLUE RIBAND of the Ceylon Turf not only thrilling from a spectacular point of view but also interesting from the bloodstock angle. The race itself had its excitements and thrills.

And the mantle of honour fell on that ever-green and popular sportsman Mr. A. R. M. Zarook's Joshua. This French gelding, brilli-

antly conquered his rivals and won like a stout hearted champion and thus proved that he was a cut above the class. Furthermore Joshua looked a picture of fitness in every inch and won his second Governor General's Cup following two thirds of the way his illustrious forbears

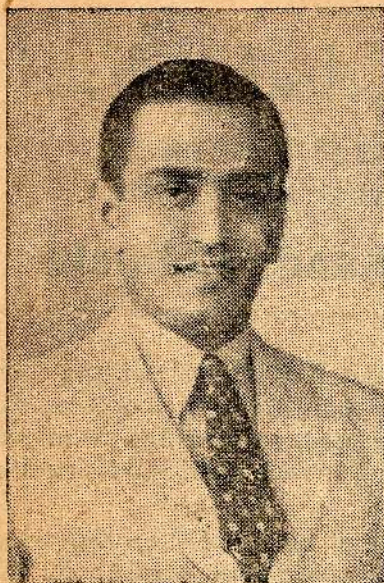


Mr. C. S. Kumaraswamy

trod. The most salient feature of this race was that in the last ten years three horses by themselves won this Cup eight times. The great Tai Yang gelding COTTON HALL - thrice OWEN GRANGE thrice and JOSHUA repeated his victory for the second year in succession.

Mr. Zarook retained the services of that Indian ace horseman Jockey Ahmed Khan to ride for him in this race and Ahmed Khan rode Joshua in masterly style with an abundance of confidence and thus presented his owner with the much coveted trophy amidst thunderous public applause.



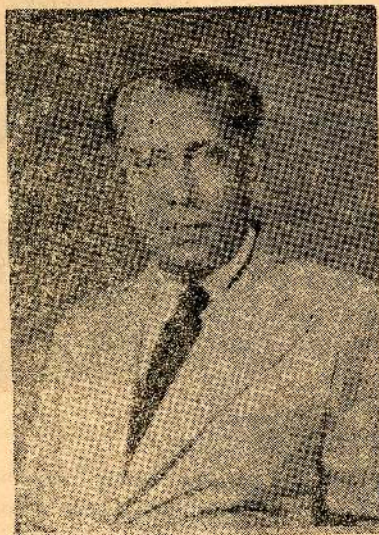


Mr. C. S. Sathananthan

The C.A. Laing Cup was won by Mr C S Sathananthan's Qamaran ridden by Fordyce from Mas'ud Al Khair and Mibyar. It was a popular victory for Qamaran who had been a model of consistency Wilson 11 the raging hot favourite justified the confidence of his followers to

win the Sigiriya Plate ridden by Whiteside from Gli'ad and Sarem. An objection against the winner was over-ruled. The Puttalam Plate saw Badshah trounce a moderate field from Star of Love and Hoagy Carmichael. Mr.

V. Rajapakse's United Steel carried away the Lawyer's Cup from his stable mate Reckless Courage and Naseeb. Judar ran below expectations, Advocate was a sore disappointment.



Mr. V. Rajapakse

In a sparkling victory Berwick Law hacked the five contenders in the Channer

Cup to give owner A. E. Wijesuriya his first trophy for the meet. Fourth Degree and Schwe were no match for Berwick Law. Cobscar of whom much was expected proved a thorough failure.

The much discussed race during the Meet was the Arab Derby. Mahoul with the draw in his favour produced a scintillating run

to carry the Robert's Cup for the fifth time for C. Wijesinghe in a fairly large field. Thanks to the clever horsemanship of Jockey Mohideen who, incidentally, is the first Ceylonese horseman to ride the winner of the Robert's Cup. This achievement is a very rare distinction. Riding Mahoul with an undisturbed mind, and keeping his mount with in striking distance, he rode a well judged race. His victory was never in doubt.

The Colombo Bank Shroff's Cup for Horses in Class III produced another electrifying finish between Kolar Bear and Sun Gold. Tyrrell riding Kolar Bear with superb horse man-ship just managed to nose the neglected Sun Gold in the last stride and with the Camera deciding in his favour Ibn Al Jazira won the Lunugalle Plate for Arabs in Class I from Raj Kumar and Ayman Sa'ad.



Mrs. Francis Amarasuriya

The G N G Wallis Cup offered for the first time, and presented by the Race Horse Owners and Trainers Association to perpetuate the revered memory of the late G.N.G.



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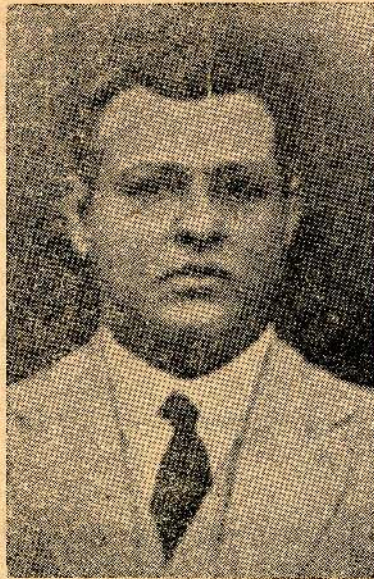
Thank You

The Manager





Walles. I am glad that "The Searchlight" was the first paper to make the suggestion and that it has borne fruit. Naseeb owned by Mr A.R.M. Zarook splendidly ridden by Ahmed Khan made up for his earlier defeat in the Lawyer's Cup to win this trophy. Ma-



Late G. N. G. Walles

thurin was second and Mountain Minstrel third. The favourite Lucky Number was a poor fourth. Happy Slipper owned by Mr. & Mrs. C. S. Kumaraswamy won the Rajapakse Cup from Hedara and Pearl Rose. Mr. Kumar Perera who rode Happy Slipper is a promising young horseman and with a bright future for G. R. 's

Ananda Hara trained by Rapesinghe won the Second Div. of the Dumbara Plate

Top Ranking

# TEXTILES

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## MOULANAS

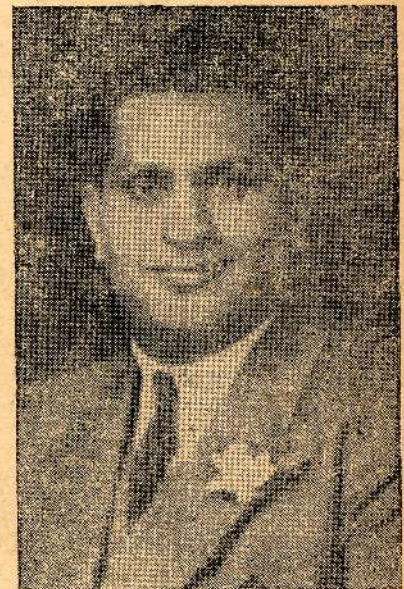
COLOMBO — KANDY

RATNAPURA

for Arabs in Class III from Happy Baby and Star of Joy. Jamal al Karim ran below expectations. Mohan's Pet completed a double for Mr. & Mrs. C.S. Kumaraswamy in winning the Senior Div. of the Dumbara Plate. W. Silva the veteran horseman rode a well judged race to dislodge the tactics of Somapala astride Madhhar al Rafidain. Wiam was third

Jockey Frank Smith riding Select Allow with resolute confidence trounced Royal Impression and Land Lubber in the Stewards Cup by three lengths. Select Allow is a gelding of beautiful poise and action and should be winning many more races for Mrs. G.N.G. Walles. Royal Impression made a desperate effort but found Select Allow a tough customer who won in a manner as of a coming champion Mrs. M. Hussein's Hatheri Pasha won the Morley Cup in a storming challenge

from Qamar and Faya-dhan Baghdad in a classy field. Trainer Robert sent out his first winner in Rawnaq to claim the Menik Ganga Plate well ridden by Rana-weera who won in a common canter from Dahman Dalaf. Reckless Courage who failed to deliver the goods in the Lawyer's Cup



Mr. S. R. de Silva

Co-owner of IPOMEA

Who won the Laxapana Cup

proved that he ran an very impressive race to win the Uva Handicap from Golden Border and Winoway, for Horses in class 11 and 111

Royal Coronet owned by Mrs. A. Selvaratnam, won the Yativantota Plate from The Moat and Kittywake. Sarem atoned for his earlier lapse in the Attanagalle Plate well ridden by Abeyagonawardene to win by a short head.

Ted Fordyce displayed remarkable skill, artistry and superb horsemanship when he



piloted home Minette in the RWITC Cup holding Quam Celerine and Silver Balm to win by a half a length. Ahmed Khan won his second trophy on Mullaley owned by that lady race horse owner, Mrs Stewart, and trained by Renga Selvaratnam from Nomad Star and Schwe. Berwick Law was a dismal failure comparing his previous victory in the Channer Cup.



Mr. B. E. R. Cooray

The results of the Madras Cup reveals yet another strange episode in Ceylon Racing. Surety II's victory was a nightmare comparing his ignominious failure in the Arab Derby. Reversals of form doesn't seem to catch the eye of our Board of Stewards. This is how racing

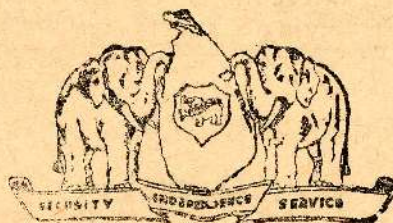
is being conducted. Does Mr. Halahackone think that his arab won on pure merit or what? The lower Div of the Attanagalle Plate saw Wiam steal the thunder from Jamalal Karim and Star of Joy. Fordyce who rode the favourite tried his utmost best but failed by half a length. Mr & Mrs. Francis Amarasuriya netted a grand double through the medium of Sunny Tudor and Petroleum. This popular combine has had a fair degree of success of late. Kolar Bear who won for them the Col. Bank Shroff's Cup is another potential champion who should go far. He is a brilliant and powerfully built gelding with nice action and fighting qualities. Counter Attack made no mistake in carrying away the N. M. de Silva Plate for Arabs in Class II beating Fayadhan Baghdad and Hatheri Pasha. Dr. G. Wignaraja's Ala Mahlak II very capably ridden by Tyrrell won the Jaffna Stakes for Arabs I in a thrilling encounter between Shamil al Khair and Little Babu. Judar won two trophies for his sporting owner, Mr. A. Wijesuriya. The Galle Cup and the A. E. de Silva Cup. It is a pity that we didn't seem the best of the champion Owen Grange, but let's hope that Judar will emulate the great deeds of the fading champion who is

now declining in years. Shell Pink ridden by Whiteside was never in doubt of carrying away the O.E.G. Cup for his owner Mr. V. Rajapakse, in a well fought out battle between Adamant and Drake's Drum. Joshua who too was a lively contender for this trophy was third all the way and weakened. He looked a tired horse after his strenuous victory in the Classic.



Jockey Ted Fordyce

Gunadesa riding Yasnil trounced King Solomon II and Happy Baby in the Lower Div of the Col Cup. Ipomea brilliantly handled by H. G. Russell delivered the goods in winning the Laxapana Cup for Class IV Horses for Co-owner S. R de Silva and Miss Anne Marie who at long last broke the ice. Edouard Valmont raced in



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the bunch and was fifth in the straight but found Ipomea going like a jet who won a well deserved race.

The Dove and Just Henry owned by our amiable and popular sportsman Mr. B.E.R. Cooray indeed scored a magnificent double on the last day of the Meet. Now that this owner has broken the ice I hope to see his colours more frequently Hearty congratulations to



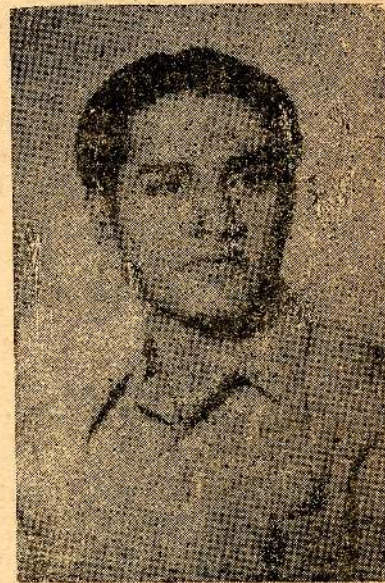
His Excellency The Governor General Presents The Governor General's Cup to Mr. A. R. M. Zarook

you Mr. Cooray on your well merited victories. Senator C. Wijesinghe carried away the two main Arab events the Robert's and the Bandaranaike Cups. He holds the record in winning five Robert's Cups which is undoubtedly a very rare distinction The E.L.F. de Soysa Cup for Horses In Class III saw Flying Sorcerer win this much coveted trophy presented in the name of one of Ceylon's greatest turfites the G.O.M. of the Ceylon Turf. Flying Sorcerer won from Lini and Royal impression in a fairly strong field of

12 thoroughbreds. The Carlyon Stakes went to Fayadhan Baghdad who brought the Meet to a close from Nasheet and Sultan Mahal.

Summing up the Five Day Meeting and weighing the merits and de-merits, the Meet was a thorough success and had its shares of thrills, excitements and well fought out battles between the rival contenders. The judging too was of a very high order and thanks

to our estimable Judge Mr. S.E Fernando. The leading Owner was Mr V Rajapakse followed by Senator C. Wijesinghe and Mr A. R. M. Zarook a very creditable third. Training Honours of course went to Renga Selvaratnam who had a remarkably great innings.



Trainer Renga Selvaratnam

Ted Fordyce was the champion Jockey to have won the Gold Whip while Jockey Tyrrell a good second.

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## Ceylon in a mess, says 'Daily Mail' man

CEYLON PRIME MINISTER DENIES IT

**M**ARXISM is on the rampage in this country. Before its threat the British planter is retreating. A Marxist Minister is gaining more and more ground. Prices are high. The economy is tottering. A public utility like the post office is in a "parlous" state. And a convict who tires of jail can buy himself out of it for a mere thousand rupees—**Ceylon**—as seen by "Daily Mail" correspondent Noel Clark.

Based on an interview with Prime Minister Bandaranaike, Clark's near column length despatch from Colombo, appearing in the "Daily Mail," in the 23rd Instant is a severe indictment of Ceylon.

The article is prefaced with the remark that Clark is "unconvinced that the British fears are (of expropriation, are unfounded."

He goes on to say: "I put it to Ceylon's Premier Bandaranaike today, that the Communists are gaining ground in Ceylon.

"This fear, this bogey, is terribly overdone," he snapped."

### 'PLANTERS WORRIED'

Clark reports that British and Ceylonese planters are worried about the 'so-called Paddy Lands Bill,' behind which is the "declared Communist, Philip Gunawardena, Minister of Food and Agriculture."

The planters, according to Clark, say that if the Bill becomes law, "it will be the first step towards the setting up of Communist-style co-operatives that will spread to the rubber and tea estates."

What of the Prime Minister's attitude to the Bill? says Clark. Mr. Bandaranaike was understood to have been opposed to the Bill. But to me he sounded as though he has already made up his mind that it will pass."

Despite the Prime Minister's dismissal of the threat of Communism as an exaggeration, Clark notes that nearly everyone he spoke to took the view "that the influence of the extreme left is growing."

### 'NO CONTROL OVER ECONOMY'

And the one man who is making political ground 'because he knows where he is going' is Minister D. P. R. Gunawardena.

There is a steady trickle of British planters out of the island, he says. There are left today not more than five hundred of them—not all of them estate owners.

But he declares, "Britain's stake in Ceylon's rubber and tea is still great—thirty per cent ownership of rubber estates and possibly twice as large a share of the tea holdings.

Mr. Bandaranaike is quoted as saying that he foresees "No further deterioration" in the economic situation. But Clark points out, "The fact is that Ceylon has no control whatever over her economic situation. With tea and rubber the mainstays of her economy she is entirely at the mercy of world markets. Experts now hope that prices may be again on the upgrade, which could be Bandaranaike's salvation."

### 'POLICE DEMORALISED'

Clark ends his article with these observations: "Prices are high. There is unrest in the plantations. The police are being demoralised by public attacks from Ministers. The post office is in a parlous state jammed full with parcels, some of which arrived from abroad more than two months ago. I am assured I can get a man released from jail for a thousand rupees—about £70. And in the docks there is trouble—fostered, I am told, by the Communist Food Minister's trade union."

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## The Agitation for Total Prohibition

schemes propounded in the name of temperance or for the furtherance of local option. We don't believe in chasing will-o-the-wisps or hope to create a modern Utopia for that seem to us so puerile and chimerical.

We agree with our correspondent that drink is doing a lot of harm and that Bacchus is drowning more men than Naptune. But does he believe that the above happens because the privilege of local option is denied to the estate labourer? We certainly don't. Instead of accord- ing the privilege of local option to the indigent villager or labourer, we much rather that the different planters associations were allowed to deal with the matter whether or not a tavern for the sale of arrack or toddy should be opened in any given planting area. There is no meaning in giving the estate labourer the pri- vilege of local option. He is sure to abuse it and regret at the end. His circumstances are such that he would be more open to the dan- gers arising from the tavern and the facility to indulge in drink than when taverns are strewn about his surroundings.

It is hardly fair to accuse the Government of encouraging drink. The basic principle un- derlying the Excise Ordinance is to discourage the opportunities for drink; the very thing temperance advocates condemn. By local option it is not possible to secure the end in view since the remedy would be worse than the evil



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Once the taverns are closed by local option the more insidious enemy in the illicit—seller and illicit booth-keeper will appear. The only way to wean estate labourers from drink is a to adopt the very practicable suggestion made at the GALLE DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSO- CIATION by those planters who take a warm interst on the subject of drink in estate areas that licences for the sale of arrack or toddy where necessary should be issued on payment to estates under the control of the Suprintend- ent. This system we are informed, works smoothly in the F. M. S. and if it is so it should be worth trying it in Ceylon too. That seems to us for the present to be the only practicable solution to a subject that bristles with difficul- ties and baffles the temperance advocates. We however, are dead set against total prohibition that will eventually kill industry and deprive government of revenue which help to provide the people with quite a number of amenities.

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## THE DESPAIRING YOUTH OF CEYLON

By "The Gentleman With a Monocle"

THERE is increasing anxiety in every middle-class home to-day. Anxiety caused over unemployment or to put it straight, the despairing youth of the country, who, instead of bringing sunshine and happiness to the parental roof tree are languishing with forlorn hopes that maketh the heart sick; and remain milestones round the necks of parents. One result of this is that they are a misery unto themselves, a burden upon their families and friends and even on the State. H. G. WELLS holds the view, that, "as a community progresses it goes down in the scale of economic values." This is true so far as it concerns us in Ceylon. Let us here ask ourselves the question: Whither are we heading to? Are we going down the ladder, of economic values or are we going up? If we are going up, then why need there be so much of unemployment, which brings with it demoralisation. If we are going down the ladder, how best can we avert disaster and so adopt ourselves in the eyes of the world and become useful factors in a contented and well-regulated society of useful citizens?

The young men of Ceylon to-day are in despair. Go wherever you will and you see desperation writ large in the face of every second young man you meet. With the spread of education, and with the increase in the general population, they find that the field for the utilization of their talents by the exercise of which they had hoped to secure employment is getting narrower and narrower and not as they had hoped, wider and wider. One thing however is quite obvious. And that is that the "book learnt knowledge today when not intended for higher professional pursuits, does not appear to have helped or fitted them for any suitable employment. Either their education is bad, defective, insufficient or unsuitable for remunerative occupation, or the majority of them lack enthusiasm, imagination and energy and know not what to make of themselves.

Our educational system is not as utilitarian as it should be. Our schools are cramming up the boys and girls with contents of textbooks that is indigestible and which do not produce







The people today are more than "hewers of wood and drawers of water." They create nothing but consume everything they want. We are dependent to the foreign manufacturer and produce for our living. The sense of responsibility to one self is not enkindled. It is certainly not encouraged. Be a lawyer or a doctor if you want, a judge or a Civil Servant if you can; otherwise a clerk or smell the ranks of the army of unemployed seems to be the policy of the Government They tell us. We have given you an University's, a Medical and Law College and what more need you have they ask. The "upper ten" are happy with those concessions and those privileges of an University of a Medical and Law College for such suit them very nicely, but what about the under dog? it is the same answer that will be forth coming Be a lawyer or a doctor if you want judge or a Civil Servant if you can! No! We must make up our minds to stem the tide of unemployment A big effort must be a moed and a bold effort too the best brains of the country must get together to solve what should be looked upon as a National problem.

### P. M. warns Country against Extremists

Refers to what 'The Searchlight' said in 1939 about "Caste Rule"

THE Prime Minister at Kandy's Market Square on Sunday last described in detail the chain of 'disastrous and evil forces' that would be let loose if the solution to the language problem was sought on the lines advocated by extremists and political opportunists."

He told the people that the extremists would find cover in the safety of their homes while the ordinary common man would suffer the consequences of communal conflagration which will end in suffering and misery.

The country would be transformed into a veritable battlefield. Women would wail the loss of their husbands, children would moan the loss of their parents, and misery would befall thousands of peace loving families

#### REACTION

He warned the people that communal strife would not end with a battle between the Sinhalese and the Tamils. It would set a chain reaction - it would first be the Sin' a'la rule then the rule by the Sinhala

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Buddhists and finally end with Sinhala Goigama Buddhist rule.

At this stage the "battle" would be among the Sinhalese - and what prosperity and happiness could such a chaotic state of affairs bring for the country?

The Prime Minister said "the power in the country was held for 10 years by the capitalists, bus magnates, the Kandyan aristocracy and the people of the rich and reputable families. This group had been thrown out of power."

"The people might say that he too beloned to a rich and reputable family. True enough, the Prime Minister said:

'But the difference is that while others of my class were put into power by the influence of the ruling class, I was put into power and elected the head of the State by the working class and the middle-class.'

"The Prime Minister said that he had an obligation to the people who put him into power."

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## Trade Unions tools of Political parties

**T**HE President of the SLFP trade union, Mr. S. D. Bandaranaike, M.P. for Gampaha, told a meeting of the Sri Lanka Film Workers' Society, at Rampitiya junction, Ragama, that the trade union movement in Ceylon was a severe blow to the economy and well-being of the country.

Analysing his statement, Mr. Bandaranaike said that trade unions in Ceylon were the tools of various political parties. Attempts were made by the parties to mislead workers, who were members of these unions, and create chaos, hoping thereby to get into power.

Those political parties he said advised their unions to ask for increased wages, houses and lands, to slow down work, stage strikes, and harm the country.

He also pointed out that 40 per cent of the national income was being spent on government workers when nearly eight million people were without employment and houses.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

The Planning Committee, he felt, must take adequate steps to solve the unemployment and starvation problems without delay.

He also said that nearly 120 lakhs of rupees were being sent abroad to purchase films. If the film industry was made a national industry a good part of that money could be retained in the country.

Mr. Charles Gandara, M.M.C. said that the Colombo Municipal Council was planning to acquire the cinema halls in Colombo shortly and run them as a monopoly of the council. The profits would go to improve recreation and welfare facilities of citizens.

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## In Defence of Lawyers

BY HAROLD BRIGHOUSE

Just as all the world loves a lover all the world hates a lawyer. It is the purpose of this article to defend lawyers because lawyers are so busily engaged in defending other people that they never have time to speak in their own defence

**T**O the prejudiced, but only to the prejudiced, it may seem strange and almost perverse that while Ceylon is trying to abolish one kind of bar she permits the other to survive. There are so many people who would rather have a drink than meet a lawyer.

It is the purpose of this article to defend lawyers, because these notoriously strong and silent men have the dignified habit of saying nothing in their own defence. Why, when one of the leading truisms is that all the world loves a lover, why is it equally true to say that all the world hates a lawyer?

Take other professions which, like the law, are conspiracies against the laity. Do we hate the conspirator known as a professional cricketer? No; nor do we resent the existence as necessary conveniences of doctors or book-makers.

Why, then this new craze singling out of lawyers for special detestation.

The reason is quite simple. The ordinary man regards the lawyer as a hair-splitting exactitudinarian and because he is himself a blunt fellow unskilled in logic and in the lucid expression of continuous thought, he resents in another a quality he does not possess. Words? They are our common property. Why should a man be able to make huge sums of money out of words?

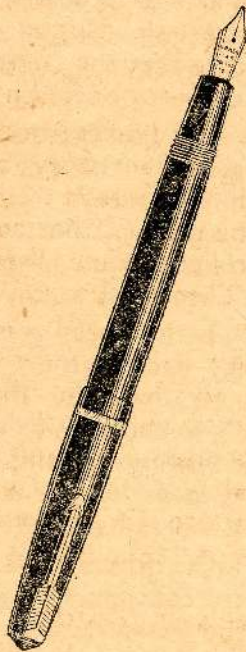
Popular novelists do it, and the average man has no resentment of their earnings because their words appear in print and are, anyhow, entertaining words. But a lawyer merely talks in court eloquently it may be, and the average man does resent the earnings of a lawyer or they not appear to be, simply by word of mouth.

A doctor is manifestly an expert and one may object on general grounds of intellectual arrogance to all experts, but one has to grant that the doctor's knowledge and the surgeon's tools, are not everybody's knowledge nor every-



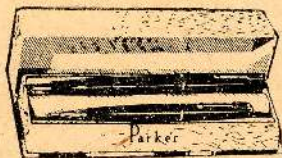
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are lawyers and the devil looks after his own; most men in Parliament are not lawyers, and what happens quite often when Parliament makes a new law or revises an old one? Why, so solvently and untrained is the collective intelligence of legislators that Acts are passed, drafted with such obscurity that nobody knows their meaning and unhappy litigants must come to the law-courts for a Judge's ruling as to what, exactly, were the intentions of Parliament.

THE result is known derisively as judge made law, but if legislators cannot express their meaning in plain words they must fall back upon the expert. That is, in other words, an indictment of the average man who has voted into Parliament some copy of himself promptly proceeds to make necessary work for lawyers by muddle-headed thinking. There is no remedy except a change of human nature. We need lawyers because we are quarrelsome and criminal; we need them because we choose Parliamentary representatives who muddle the drafting of their Acts.

Besides, occasionally one of these strong and silent men breaks a habit and speaks in public. Lord Hewart points proudly to the gain in income tax and super tax to the Exchequer arising out of the salaries of judges. More, there are court-fees and Lord Hewart wondered if the income earned by trials was not larger than the payments made to judges who tried the cases. Then what we need is obviously not less crime but more not fewer lawyers but more and what imperils the nation is not the slump in trade but the slump in crime.

body's tools. But words? The average man can use words himself. He often does

But now to the defence of lawyers and to some accusation of the average man in Parliament and out of it, who makes lawyers a necessity. Instead of going to feud, we go to law and lawyers figure as civilisation's device to stand between a couple of pugnacious fellows who, otherwise, would settle a difference in the crude and bloody way of their cave-dwelling ancestry.

More subtle is the case of the work he makes for lawyers. Avoid, in this matter, the cynicism of saying that many men in Parliament

HOWEVER, it is absurd to suggest that to be a patriot to-day one should go out and commit crime so that more and more of our self supporting law-courts may flourish; and Lord Hewart is quoted only to show how ill-advised he was to attempt a defence of lawyers.

Let us welcome with particular warmth the American lawyers who visited these shores. Whoever heard in England, of a successful lawyer who was not a prop of wine merchants? The law is a dry trade; in America, simply heroic; therefore let us welcome with particular warmth...humanity demands it.



## Unadulterated Perversion of Buddhism

BY J. E. REZEL

We are witnessing a disgraceful episode in the current lives of the High Priests of Malwatte and Asgiriya. Without confining themselves to the activities in the spiritual plane, they are trespassing on the terrestrial reserves of the laity. It is a daring act for these High Priests to invite "discredited" politicians on a "mission" which is fraught with grave danger to the tranquility of the nation.

According to Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, who is licking the deep wound of the last general elections, 100 Bhikkus will lead the walk to Kandy. Is the ill-fated demonstration religious or secular? If it is the latter the order of procedure is wrong. And if it is a U.N.P. demonstration, its soldier President should lead the march. Whosoever seeks shade behind the shadows of the leading Bhikkhus is certainly guilty of the technique of cunning, for which politicians are never hard up.

## This, That and that other

BY PEPPERMINT

(A matured politician and social service worker is in constant communication with "Peppermint" who reproduces, unexpurgated, the frank, relevant and intelligent views of a gentleman who is respected, not merely for his resplendent leniency but more for his integrity, careful analysis and robust frankness).

**Our Generous Planters:** The late Sir J. N. Campbell, a central province tea planter, left £.10,000, when leaving Ceylon. He was knighted in England. "Peppermint" will contact Mr. N. H. W. Dulling, Secretary of the Planters Association of Ceylon, to obtain a list of the names of the members of the Association who contributed large sums of money, erected buildings and gave other gifts for the welfare of Ceylon and its nationals.

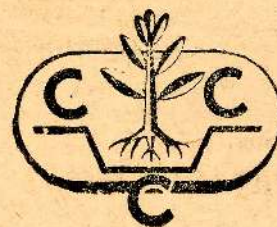
**The U.N.O.** It should be within the jurisdiction of the United Nations Organisation to ban atomic tests. Scientists have portrayed the destructive effects of these tests on human beings. Consumption, cancer, tumor, sterility will wreck the human family. An immediate ban on atomic tests and the use of the atom and hydrogen bombs will save mankind from permanent deformity, excruciating agony and extinction.

**Dictator Nasser:** He is a very ambitious dictator whose ultimate object is to compel the western powers, who are interested in North Africa and the Middle East, to have no voice in any matter in the future developments of these two important areas of the world.

**A Gatechism for Nasser:** The vast majority of the Egyptians are descendants of Copts who were, all, Christians. (Members of the Greek Catholic Church or what was known as the Eastern Church, with their Chief Bishop or Patriarch at Alexandria.)

**A Bud for Nasser's Button Hole:** According to the history of the Early Christian Church, or "Holy Catholic Church" there were Bishops in Constantinople, Athens, Alexandria and Rome. They all belonged to the "Holy Catholic Church". With the rise of the Roman Empire and the fall of the Grecian Empire, the Bishop of Rome, being in the Metropolis of the Roman Empire, became more prominent and in cases of disputes the other Bishops used to consult him. At a later stage the "Holy Catholic Church" got divided into the Eastern Church and the Western Church with Constantinople as the Metropolis of the Eastern Church and Rome as the Metropolis of the Western Church.

**Who are the people called TURKS?** With the conquest of Greece and all Asia Minor by Turkestan, the populace was called TURKS.



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## Church Music in Chinese

The Chinese Church is especially busy in the field of church music. The C. L. S. has published a Chinese version of Handel's 'Messiah.' It has also published a new hymn-book of 170 songs, of which 45 are described as short choruses. The Music Department of Nanking Theological Seminary has published a series of anthems for choir use. It includes Franck's "Panis Angelicus" a 'Sanctus' by Vittoria, anthems adapted from the music of such composers as Beethoven and Mendelssohn, and others not so easily identified.

Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* has been printed in Shanghai TO BE USED AS A GOVERNMENT SPONSORED TEXT-BOOK IN CLASSICAL ENGLISH.

*Tien Feng* (a Christian periodical with over 10,000 circulation) is reproducing on the back page of each number some outstanding Bible paintings: Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well, painted by a French painter Pierre Ming ya-erh, Jesus and His

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Disciples walking through a grain field, by a German painter, Jesus as a Boy in the Jerusalem temple, by the German painter Hermann K'e-lui-men-tz'u.

### OUTPUT INCREASED

In 1955, according to Y. T. Wu's report to the Peking Christian Conference the total output in books and pictorials of the C. L. S. the Associated Press, the Chino Baptist Publications House and the China Sunday School Union reached 275,700 copies which is 170% of the 1954 output.

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## JOHN CITIZEN DISCOVERS WHY beer is best

**CITIZEN** My doctor tells me to drink beer. May I ask you a few questions?

**EXPERT** Certainly, anything you like.

**CITIZEN** Well, you are an expert brewer. You ought to know what beer is made of and why it should do me good.

**EXPERT** I certainly do.

**CITIZEN** I see they advertise that beer is brewed from the finest malt, hops, and yeast. Is that true?

**EXPERT** Yes. For hundreds of years pure barley-malt has been recognized as one of the purest and most digestible forms of nourishment.

**CITIZEN** And why are hops used?

**EXPERT** Hops not only give a delightful flavour but act as an appetizer and a magnificent anti-septic.

**CITIZEN** Antiseptic?

**EXPERT** Yes. Many medical testimonies endorse this, and during certain epidemics in bygone years beer was made compulsory on account of its nutritive and antiseptic qualities.

**CITIZEN** That's interesting—and why is yeast good?

**EXPERT** Surely you don't need an expert to tell you that yeast is now known as one of the greatest rejuvenators and restoratives.

**CITIZEN** Yes, I've heard that.

**EXPERT** Well, there you've got it. In British beer you get the perfect combination of the finest food value possible. It is a body-builder and restorative, an antiseptic against most common ailments, and full of nourishment in the most digestive form. Our country has thrived on it from time immemorial. So will you. Your doctor is right.

**CITIZEN** Why has beer become so popular of late?

**EXPERT** Medical science and the knowledge of food values has increased enormously. Our ancestors drank beer by instinct and tradition. Now dietetic research has proved that their instinct and the tradition were sound. While other drinks come and go, beer remains and is by far the most wholesome drink in the world.

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15th September 1957

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## Vilification of the Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited

**T**WO members of the House of Representatives availing themselves to the fullest of their privileged position and conscious of the immunity they enjoyed in law for anything said in pursuit of their public duties, and briefed, presumably, by some disgruntled person or persons, who found the grapes sour, made allegations against the Ceylon Shipping Lines in Parliament. The Ceylon Government had a big stake in this company. It contributed a million rupees to its share capital apart from offering it every support and encouragement in the hope of seeing in it the nucleus of a Ceylon Shipping Industry.

The charge levelled against the company was somewhat serious when reduced to cold print. Obviously it was an attempt at mud-slinging at the company and especially at those who were here to provide this country with the know how of building up and conducting a shipping enterprise. For their expert knowledge in such matters was unmatched and from them the Ceylonese had to learn quite a good deal. Furthermore, it had to be noted that these Norwegians were experienced businessmen and themselves had a stake in the company. They came into the business convinced of the prospects such a project held out to them.

The company is represented on the Board of Directors with six Ceylonese, two of whom are Government nominees and four Norwegians with influential connections with the Ship-Building, Ship-owning and Ship broking Industries in Europe and elsewhere. Interested as they are in the Shipping Lines Ltd. in which they had a stake it was hardly likely they would in any way foul their own nests or do anything to jeopardise a concern with bright prospects.

Having gone into the matter thoroughly, we have arrived at the conclusion that the two parliamentarians have been indulging in mere bush-wacking and trying to create public prejudice against the company in order to appease, so it appears to us, those with disappointed hopes and frustrated plans. The main charge levelled at the company is that 'secret' and irregular commissions are being earned by people in the United Kingdom and Norway over the booking of freight of Government cargo'. One M.P. estimated that as much as a million rupees a month was being earned irregularly in the form of 'unauthorised commissions' and alleged that in consequence, the cost of food to the Ceylon consumer was being unfairly and wantonly inflated. This admittedly is a far fetched and baseless charge.

It is well known that the payment of commissions is inherent in the business of booking freight on trip or time Charter as well as in the purchase and sale of ships. When a charterer who has cargo to carry from one point to another wishes to book freight, he must obviously contact ship-owners to find out what ships are available, where they are positioned and whether the ships would be available at the time he wants them and finally the price he will have to pay in order to engage the ship.

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Now the normal practice throughout the world in all Shipping Circles, is for the man who wants the freight to contact the man who has the freight. This is done through a freight broker. The profession of freight brokers is an honourable and well-recognised one in England and the Continent. In fact, in the modern shipping world, which is so heavily complicated by the operation of innumerable Lines and Conferences and the intrusion of individual owners, order and method are introduced into business of shipping mainly by the operation of Freight Brokers. The Baltic Exchange of the United Kingdom, which is an International Shipping Centre, is operated largely through the institutions of the Freight broker.

When the Government of Ceylon has cargo or flour to carry from South America, Formosa or Manila or Australia to Colombo, or Sugar from South America, Formosa or Manila to Colombo, or rice from Burma, it advertises this fact on the Baltic Exchange through a broker who naturally has to be remunerated by the payment of commission if he succeeds in booking freight from a shipowner for the carriage of such cargo.

When the Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited is advised of the freight requirement of the Ceylon Government, the company has to make enquiries for freight in exactly the same way as the Ceylon Government would do if it were to book its own freight direct on the Baltic Exchange or elsewhere. There is absolutely no difference in the means adopted to secure the freight. When a Broker gets an enquiry for freight, either direct from the Ceylon Government or through the Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited, he advertises the fact on the Baltic Exchange and in response to such advertisement receives various offers from shipowners. Ship owners themselves employ brokers for the purpose of hiring out their vessels and it often happens that by the time an offer of freight is received by the company through brokers, such an offer may have been made through a number of brokers. It can very well be that an offer of freight which passed through the hands of ten brokers, is more attractive and less expensive than an offer of freight for the same cargo that has passed through the hands of two brokers.

Brokerage is payable both by the charterer as well as the owner, as there are charterers brokers as well as owners' brokers and there can be several such brokers in one trans-

action. It is the normal shipping practice for such brokers to be employed and that the cost of freight is not necessarily influenced adversely by the presence of a multiplicity of brokers in any one transaction. The fact that the Government of Ceylon fully recognises the presence of and the need for brokers in freight transactions, is evidenced by the fact that in all Charter Parties of the Ceylon Government, the maximum amount of commission payable by way of brokerage on behalf of the charterer, is expressly stated in all Charter Parties and publicly advertised not only on the floor of the Baltic Exchange, but also among shipowners, brokers and any other parties interested in making offers of freight on behalf of the Government cargo. The system, therefore, is such that ship owners must and do pay brokerage or commission. It is furthermore a strict rule according to the Charter Parties that the ship owner pays the brokerage. Obviously therefore the charge levelled regarding illegal payments to brokers is baseless.

The reasonable attitude of Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited has underlined their transactions with the Government, quite contrary to the publicity given of freight rates which are said to be loaded with 'hidden commissions'

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To those disappointed persons who have levelled the charge of a "monopoly" granted to the Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited by the Government, it has to be pointed out that the whole shipping world had the same opportunity as this Company. Before the Ceylon Shipping Lines Limited was established Rice from Burma was the monopoly

of the Bay of Bengal Conference and the freight rate negotiated with the Food Commissioner. Freight for Flour from Australia and Rice from China were negotiated by The Baltic Exchange Chartering Committee or directly through Shipping Brokers, with a strong preference for particular Shipping Brokers, who enjoyed a virtual monopoly.

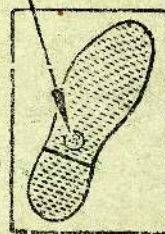


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Printed & Published for the administrator of the Estate of Lilian M. Gomes, by Anton Bertram Gomes residing at 71/1 37th Lane, Wellawatte at The Searchlight Printing Works, Wellawatte on 15th September 1957

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