

VOL 39 NO. 2

COLOMBO

Jan. 30th 1960

# Hulftsdorp Speaks Out

HE SEARCHLIGHT has had occasion very often to deplore that the legal fraternity who was known always to be in the fore front in fighting the battles of the people in the past, had with the passing away of giants



like F. Donhorst, H.J.C. Pereira, the Jayawardene brothers. E. W. Perera, Arthur Alvis, Allan Drieberg and others of their calibre. being inclined to take a back seat when there was a conflict between the Government and the People and thus allowed public interests to suffer. This seeming nonchalance, if indifference is too mild a word to be used is altogether a new and strange man'festation. Time was when Hulftsdorp took the lead and stood up as champions of public rights whenever it was

felt that Government sought to ride roughshod over the people. So recently as 1958 when the Communal Riots occurred due to the passing of the SIN-HALA ONLY BILL, and the outlook seemed to be dismal, we had occasion to tax the lawyer element for their inexplicable conduct and studied silence and in fact for their passivity. We even felt like giving reasons for their apparent aloofness or disinclination to harken to the call of the people to help them with proper guidance and leadership. This strange attitude apparently was due to self-interest, of the leaders, otherwise it is difficult to reconcile Hulfts dorp's former attitude with that of the more recent times.

In view of the above it is encouraging to note the former lukewarmness being abandoned and a new spirit being manifested. We are happy to note that the members of the Ceylon Bar are now showing an awareness of their obligations to the country and where the people's interests are concerned. We refer to the recent events where the Caretaker Government displayed what seems like a spirit of open disregard of public rights. For these reasons we heartily welcome the news that Huiftsdorp is now up and doing.

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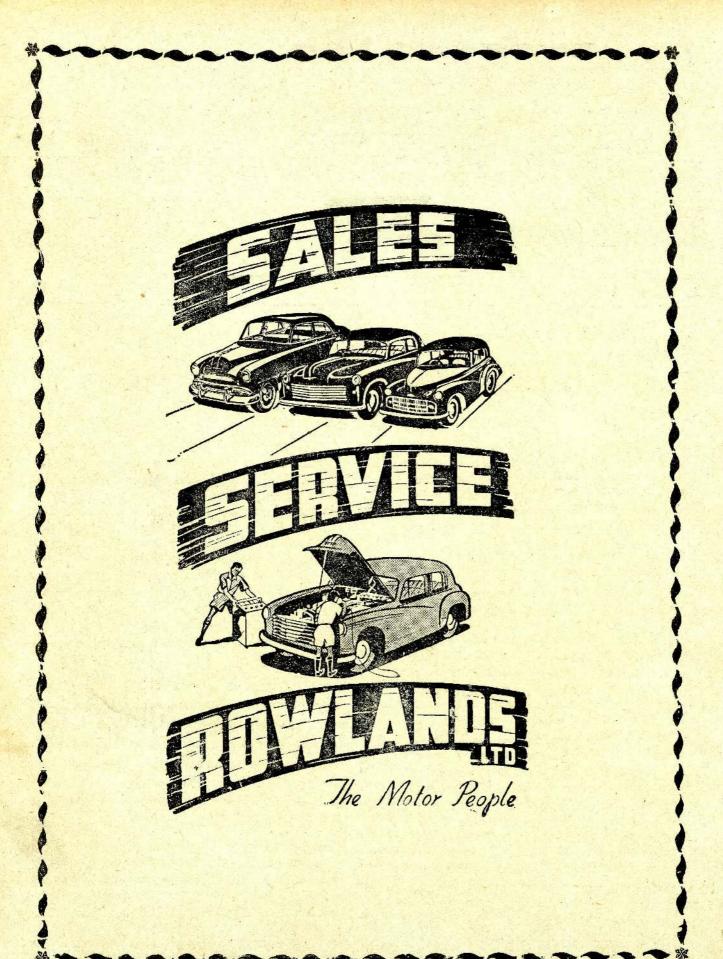
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VOL 39 NO. 2

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### The Director of Industries

THE Prime Function of such a post is to see that Industries are directed and guided in such a manner so that the Country as a whole may be benefitted But when the Director is subjected to political pressure and is unable to thus co-ordinate a country-wide industrial development the post does seem superfluous and a Head Clerk will do just as well.

Leaving aside all the innumerable conferences at home and abroad that this dignitary has to attend there does not appear to be any systematic planning of capital, labour and man agement in this Country, by the Department in the field of Industrial Development. Industry should be decentralised. Industry should be given assistance. Industry should be given impetus. Let us examine the position in these spheres and see whether the Director has directed himself to these problems.

Industry should be decentralised is the most important thing from an economic and population point of view. But what do we have? A proposal to set up TWO Spinning Mills almost opposite each other in Attanagala. Is that sensible? Industry should be given assistance is a matter which all right thinking people will agree with. If Ceylon is to produce Quality Goods locally, it is absolutely necessary that Experts in the various fields be recruited to guide our industries. It is a known fact that such experts are unavailable in Ceylon for no other reason than business is expanding into an under the produced by Roolaham Foundation.



Mr. E. C. S. Paul, Director of Industries

new fields in which no training or qualification facilities are available in Ceylon. When therefore, an Industry makes a request to recruit a foreign Expert, the Industrial Dept should not only give all assistance in the matter but should actively assist in obtaining the services of the above. Far from doing that they obstruct, delay and make the applicant feel that a henious crime is being committed in making such a request. The curious part is that the Director feels that an understudy should be placed under each

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such Expert to take over after the contractual period. He appears to have forgotten the phrase that 'a little learning is a dangerous thing.' Being an Understudy may only enable a person to carry out the mechanical detail of a task, but in no way will it enable the person to forego the background training, the theoretical work, the academic knowledge, initiative, practical do's and dont's etc, which only a sound College or Technical Institute can impart.

Thus far from assisting Industry, the Director desires Industrial standards to be lowered by placing half baked apprentice understudies to take the place of Experts with years of training and practical experience behind them. Industry should be given an impetus. By impetus is meant that wasteful competition should be eliminated and finance directed to the right channels so that more and better turnover may result. For instance Statisticians of the Department have proved that there is a potential overproduction of Banians by the present Manufacturers if they work on a full production basis. Instead, therefore, of immediately curtailing the establishment of further Factories of a similar nature the Director has come up with the bright idea of reducing the output of the

present Factories in order to accommodate the production of the new Factories. He may deny this, but attempting to introduce the Quota System on the one hand and permitting the establishment of new Factories on the other, amount to the same thing.

While on the subject of Hosiery Manufacturers it may be of interest to note that a group of manufacturers on the one side profess their inability to market their goods, while a few on the other side say they can hardly meet the demand working round the clock, With the situation in that state, the Director has come to the brilliant conclusion that the other manufacturers cannnot sell their Goods due to the overproduction of the few. Not knowing any practical business he may be excused for this humourous suggestion but the fact is that the Public know best, buy what they want and totally reject competitive items on account of Quality, Price and Durablity. Added to this fact is the question of Salesmanship which is very poor among the smaller Factories. Thus instead of the Director conducting an investigation into why Goods manufactured by one set of Manufacturers sell and those made by the others don't sell, he has come as mentioned earlier, to the conclusion that there is overproduction. But then being unacquainted with business, he may be excused.

In the field of Small Scale Industries what has the Director done? Among the many things that could have been done are:

(a) Organising a foreign Small Scale Exhibition so that Ceylonese may become acquainted with the potentialities that exist

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in these fields and invest capital by commencing such undertakings.

- (b) Persuading Government to set up an Investment Bank so that Business people may obtain Capital for the commencement of Small Scale Industries.
- (c) Sending out trained Departmental Officers to direct established Factories into the setting up of smaller Units to absorb their Waste Products and Produce by-Products.

The question therefore, posed before us is as to whether the Director should concentrate on the Textiles Corporation of which also he is the Head and thus permit any one of his Assistants, all of whom have shown a broader and a more sympathetic attitude to local industry to replace him.

The raising of the price of matches to wholesalers was a scandalous thing to have been permitted for it is only a delayed action time bomb which the consumer will eventually have to shoulder. Why should an uneconomic enterprise be permitted to raise the cost of living especially when they produce such a low standard product?

It is sincerely suggested that the Director remedy these wrongs or resign.

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### Wolves in Sheep's Clothing

NOW that Nomination Day has come and gone, and the incredibly large number of political Parties in the election fray have got down to business, it would be useful to cast a quick eye over the general trends facing the country. There are of course the Right Wing and the Leftists. But what intrigues us is the strange phenomenon of the 'father of the revolution" turning religious crusader and leading a Party which is pledged to religious and racial chauvinism. It is a far cry indeed from the day when religion was the "opium of the people," and then the masses had to be liberated from their religious superstitions!

Naturally, therefore, people begin to ask the question: What has happened to Mr. Philip Gunawardene, the 'father of Ceylon's revolution"? Could it really be true that in his own unexpected way he has suddenly been converted to religious belief? But the answers too are on some people's lips for it is an open fact that he and his new-found ally are pandering to a form of racial and religious extremism that is

pure dynamite

The fact that this kind of electioneering may spark off a recrudescence of the bitter events of May-June 1958, does not seem to concern them very much; the contradiction in a man who defended the suppression of Buddhism in Tibet, turning now to be a votary at the shrine of Buddhism, does not seem to worry him. But the memories of the people are not so short. They remember Comrade Philip of yesteryear; they remember Tibet and the Dalai Lama and the Chinese dragon over Buddhist monasteries; and they also remember the people who turned a peaceful Ceylon into one torn by racial suspicion and dissension. 'C. M.

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### The Department of Industries

### The Executives are doing a good job of work but the

#### bottleneck is at the Top

TF there is one Department in Government which could rightly be proud of their per sonnel, it is the Department of Industries. For here gathered under one organization are a group whose flair is on the life and growth of the country. A group whose care and nurture the development and expansion of this country is carefully guided and directed.

The responsibility of their duties is evident in conversations with the Executives of this Department, each of whom has quietly specialised in various fields so as to make himself more useful and capable of understanding the many intricate problems involved in the various fields of Industry. Every one of these Executives realizes the immensity of their responsibility and the importance of their direc-

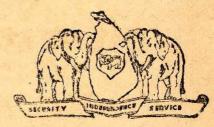
time of this individual. If at least Ceylon gets some tangible results from these excursions there might be some excuse but the poor manufacturers and industrialists in Ceylon seem to be no better off than they were before as a result of these innumerable Conferences.

Unlike India where the Industries Department threw the Book of Rules at the GATT Members and decided that self industrialization self preservation and self determination were more important to their Industrial Development than any Rules or Agreements between the GATT countries, Ceylon meekly follows orders and direction handed it by the GATT Members thereby frustrating its manufacturers and industrialists who find themselves in the peculiar position of having to fight Government in an effort to increase their industrial output

#### BY ZIGOMAR

tion and devoted to these factors many of them seek responsible advice or consult authoritative sources so that their meticulous concern for the final outcome will be devoid of discrimination, prejudice or any type of criticism from any quarter.

Not so one man who heads the Depart. ment and who thinks there is nothing more to be learnt by him in the numerous fields of Industry the Department overlooks. So little does he think of Industrial Development that he has taken over additional duties in other fields so that he may guide them during the large amount of spare time at his disposal. In dustrial Development in this country is at the cross roads of history and unless men with unfettered sincerity are at the helm of affairs many unpleasant things are bound to happen. If this man is out for power and prestige may we humbly request the Government to Knight him and retire him so that one of his more devoted subordinates may direct affairs full time instead of in the part time haphazard manner the Department is being looked after at present. The sad part is that gallavanting around the world on obvious issues seems to be the past-



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and Ceylonize products in Ceylon, How unpatriotic this all appears may simply be gathered
by a comparison in the method of approach
between the Government of India's Industrial
Department and ours. The difference really
lies in the minds of its directing officials rather
than in their proceedure. And to this end there
is a lot of improvement possible in the person
directing our Industries Dept,

The sad part is that he views efforts of manufacturers to increase their production as an affront to his directive ability and Ceylon being such a small country personal prejudices which may thus spring up may cause the ruin of a manufacturer just because he cannot get over the petty obstructions placed in his path by Departmental Officials.

To the credit of the Department, however, it must be said that the Executives are doing a good job of work, but the bottleneck is at the TOP.

## Britain's Living Standard and World Trade

HE Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Heathcoat Amory, said on arrival at London airport yesterday from the trade talks in Paris: "Our standard of living in Britain will depend on the building up of world trade."

Expansion of trade, he declared. "is the only way in which we can achieve a higher standard of living and more employment, which we all want in all countries of Europe and so that these can help the under developed countries."

Mr. Amory said that at the Paris meeting they had reached a measure of agreement and he regarded the discussions as satisfactory. If some arrangement could be made for trade between all the European countries and North America, it would help world trade in general.

I hope every step we can take towards closer economic co-operation between the countries of the world will improve the prospects of all countries to continue to increase prosperity and raise their standard of living with increased employment. If we can do that we can devote resources to the less fortunate countries. Unless we are strong and prosperous ourselves, we cannot do it but I believe we have made some progress on those lines this

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Are such elaborate and official precautions taken with any other article of food or with any other beverage?

#### Downright Wholesome

The result is that beer is brewed to-day of a soundness and a character that would have been impossible a hundred or even fifty years ago. For these elaborate safeguards have served not only to improve the materials, to secure their purity, and to ensure that nothing that is not pure is ever used; but also to improve immeasurably the whole technique of brewing.

Consider the excellence and the beneficence of beer's ingredients: malt, made from the finest barley, for digestion; hops for appetite; sugar for energy, yeast for vitality. Was there ever anything so downright wholesome as this mild, luxurious, and heartening beverage—beer?

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# THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS FARCE

ARONGS are piling up in Government Godowns all over the Island, while the man in the street is quietly taking to, what is popularly called the M. E. P. Costume. Large sums of money are being spent on fancy power looms to speed up the manufacture of this unsaleable product. Most of these Centres being established in the Dambadeniya Villages and other M.E.P. strongholds.

Thus the Public are asked to tighten their belts in order that politicians may squander public moneys in uneconomic ventures for political gain. How long can the long suffering public sit back and watch this farce continued.

The problem now is to undo the damage and set about rectifying the problem. To this end it must unhappily be realised by the Department that academic qualifications and administrative experience cannot sell our sarongs. What is required is a sound technical re adjustment in the manufacture of sarongs which can only be obtained from those who have had practical experience in this field from all angles.

Such experienced personnel may be imported from South India or in the alternative Ceylonese Industrialists like Sir Cyril Zoysa and Mr. Ruskin Fernando may be appointed to a Commission of investigation for advising the Government how to get over the present difficulty.

To deliberately impose the I. P. Act on Wholesalers is only to make them increase the prices of their textiles to meet the deficit in the purchase of sarongs. Can this be said to be the ultimate aim of the IP. Act? If this is not so, then why is not something done about it so that the consumer does not have to burden himself with the inefficiency of the Department.

Why cannot all these power looms, these various weaving centres and the thousands of

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girls employed in these places be profitably utilised into turning out Sheets, Pillow Cases and Garments in current use such as Blouses, Jackets, Camboys, etc, instead of producing uneconomic items which besides being unsaleable tend to raise the cost of living.

What is the Government trying to prove by forging ahead with the manufacture of sarongs? If occupational political necessity is the background for this problem then let it be turned into a profitable venture instead of blocking urgently required Capital into stockpiles of unsaleable items.

Another way to provide employment and at the same time eliminate waste is to prohibit units of over 25 people from engaging in the making of sarongs. This will thus compulsorily make its manufacture a cottage industry on a home basis and will also slow down production because big Weaving Mills will not be able to cash in on the product on of sarongs. We have to regulate output in this matter and not find

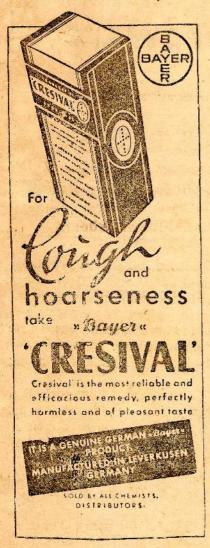
ways and means of loading the Wholesaler who will make the consumer suffer by raising the price of his textiles.



### Quotas in the Shirt Industry

(COMMUNICATED)

S a natural sequence to the foistering of a Quota System in the Hosiery Industry, the Department of Industries is now investigating the possibility of covering up their Vendetta by the introduction of a Quota System in the Shirt Industry.



Who is responsible for this planned irresponsibility the public will never know as Senior Officers in the Dept lay it at the door of the Director and the Director in turn legs it with the Permanent Secretary and so on the merry game goes. What is not not known is that type of harass ment which the manufacturer has to put up with causes repercussions all along the line.

Firstly expansion schemes are cut down. Secondly surplus labour that might

have been accommodated is done with. Thirdly experts are relieved of their posts for under the Quota System like in the Match Industry, the Public will be compelled to buy whatever thrash is marketed in the absence of anything else. Fourthly Capital tends to shy away from any undertaking in which expansion and profits tend to be limited with expenses being unlimited. Fifthly manufacturers themselves tend to lose interest in their business for wherever

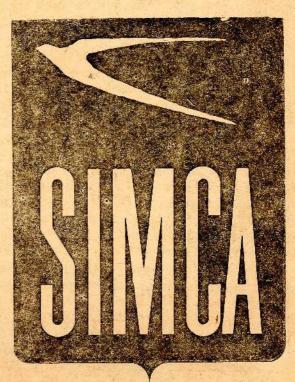
competition is almost eliminated, initiative and experimentation comes to a standstill. Sixthly the Government would be encouraging the setting up of an unofficial Cartal among the manufacturers on a price agreement which will be detrimental to the consumer.

The Department is under the delusion that the Wellawatte Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd. can supply all the Poplin required for the Shirt Market and with the establishment of the Quota System not only will the Mills be able to work to full production but also will the Manufacturers be assured of their sales.

Nothing is further from the truth. In the first instance the Wellawatte Mills is in no position to supply the Poplin requirements of delivering the standard of Poplin required by the Manufacturers and in the third instance what is actually required is a free home market with elimination of Shirt Imports if the industry is to be kept alive and healthy.

Of course the Department is going to deny the Quota Story, but a little bird informs me that the Shirt Manufacturers are going to get up one morning and find the Quota System an established fact.

TEXTILO



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# British Aid to Under-Developed Countries

about £150,000,000 on economic and technical assistance to overseas countries during the current financial year, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Sir Edward Boyle, told the House of Commons.

Replying in a debate on aid for under developed countries, Sir Edward said: "There is more interest taken than ever before in Britain and other Western countries in this very vital question of helping less developed territories.

Kingdom public funds on economic and technical assistance to overseas countries and territories rose, according to the latest estimate, from roughly £75,000 000 in the financial year, 1957.58, to about £100,000,000 for the financial year, 1958 59, an increase of one third. It seems quite likely that the out-turn of this expenditure for the current year may be around £150,000,000."

Sir Edward Boyle emphasised that a favourable balance of payment and sufficient surplus were "absolutely fundamental" to what Britain could afford to do in this field. He added that on July 20 the Government had said that they were prepared to join in working out plans for international aid and that Britain would contribute 14 per cent, or about \$50,000,000, to the proposed International Development Association.



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### On the way out!

 $\mathcal{B}^{\text{RITAIN'S small but militant Communist party}}$  slipped deeper into political obscurity in the National Parliamentary election in November last.

The party, which claims a membership of about 40,000 lost ground in 12 constituencies, was held to a standstill in three divisions it did not contest in the last election and gained slightly in three constituencies.

Fotal Communist vote in the 18 constituencies contested was 30,897 out of the 728,832 cast in those divisions.

The Party's share of the national pollfell to about 0.1 per cent from 0.2 per cent in the 1955 election.

All but one of the candidates forfeited the 150 pound sterling deposit each candidate must put up before the election by failing to poll at least one-eighth of the constituency vote.

What will the General Election in Ceylon which would be very soon on us. Indicate? We forsee that the Communists will be routed so badly as to cease to exist in this country.

# A Sacrament of Life is in Danger of Extinction

SACRAMENT of life which anoints the human family with divine unction is in danger of extinction. A challenge of the first magnititude faces Christianity and it must be vigorously met if Christianity is to be the dominating force it purpots to be. The most sacred and natural function of the human species is threatened by politicians who do not know how to administer to the normal requirements of man. Any public discussion which will encourage the contraction of the human population must be sternly rebuked and a government that encourages such discussions is not worthy of the trust reposed in it by the people

Politicians, bloated with ministerial pride and intoxicated with power, should not be allowed to violate the fundamental laws of human nature. They owe their proud existence to the unfettered laws which gave the blessed womb the freedom to reproduce them. We should not leave it to posterity to inherit a barren earth shorn of the splendour of human adornment.

Democracy is being vitiated by a cunning process. The endeavours of today to shrink the human population is nothing but an old, old wine in what appears to be in new bottles. It is not, however, the wine that invigorates but the wine that intoxicates with lame, economic excuses and renders the mind incapable of assessing the grevious harm it will inevitably result to the human race. Planned parenthood is the cemetery in which would be interned the future population of the Trade Unions. The distant view to the proletariat is a horrible one.

In the name of Rationalism we denounce as barbaric the Chinese habit of shodding the delicate feet of their women with a view to paralyse their mobility, but in the name of Democracy are we to accept the politicians' despairing cry to planned parenthood? In terms of barbarism, what is the difference between the cruel custom of the Chinese and the impudent vile of twentieth century politicians. Who would consent to women being sterilised?

Listen to the trumpeting of Bertrand Russell. "First and foremost, America and the British Commonwealth between them considerably surpass the industrial potential of the U. S.S.R. They surpass it still more decisively in industrial skill; and most of all in the scientific knowledge which is useful in modern war." This is the boast of modern science. And it is portions of the modern democratic world that are confronted with the bankruptcy of food supplies. The tree of knowledge has been badly sapped by the Western Powers and those small nations that are buoyed to them.

It is a humiliating admission of criminal neglect to have recourse to an abridgment of the human family as the only means of coping with the Food Problem.

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# Spotlight on Boxing

HOW IS A CHRISTIAN TO VIEW BOXING?

HEN Ingemar Johansson knocked out Floyd Patterson on June 26 at New York's Yankee Stadium, great was the rejoicing in Sweden. Gifts poured in, and the king of Sweden sent his heartiest congratulations. The night of the fight, beginning 3.30 a.m. Swedish time, saw a large percentage of the population awake to hear the blow by blow account broadcast. When the knockout was made known, people streamed onto the streets, yelling and singing and generating a storm of rejoicing.

The victor's return to Sweden occasioned new expressions of ecstasy. In Johansson's home city of Gothenburg the sports organization organized a formal triumphal procession from the airport to the city's largest stadium. Here delirious manifestations of exultance almost created a panic. Big names in the sport and entertainment world tried to outdo one another in eulogies When this triumphal procession reached Stockholm, the manager of the Stockholm (State) Opera, Set Svanholm, sang an old Swedish anthem before 15,000 persons in praise of the new heavyweight champion.

Not all Swedes, however, were glowing with exultant eulogies. Stockholm's biggest evening newspaper, Expressen, brought some grim facts to its readers' attention. It pointed

out that every year some boxers die because of the "sport" and that many boxers suffer physical injuries. "According to the criminal law boxing is assault with mallclous intent" said Expressen. "This assault and battery called boxing is carried on under spotlights. It is high time to focus another light on what takes place in the square formed by the ropes, namely, a reflection from the criminal jurisdiction which would deprive this legalized assault and battery of its legality."

A religious newspaper, Dagen, also focused its spotlight on boxing: "This type of amusement is a sign of the times. It is after having gone through the whole scale of decent amusements and not being satisfied that one turns to a so refined entertainment as that of a primitive bloody fight. A sure sign of a decaying culture." The newspaper considered boxing a modern form of slavery patterned after ancient gladiatorial games.

#### - HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

Focusing the spotlight on ancient boxing, we learn that boxing was introduced at the Olympic Games in 688 B.C. The Greeks at first wore "gloves' that consisted of straps of soft leather. Later hardened leather was used sometimes enforced with metal. About 400 B,C boxing "gloves" were virtually metal fists. This instrument, called a cestus, inflicted the severest injuries and often death. The Romans took such a liking to boxing that they went to great extremes to provide more brutal kinds of ces-

(Continued on page 13)



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### The Sterilisation Fad

# Women seek to Limit the Family to Get over the Cost of Living.

A DVOCATES of Birth Control are now somewhat silent in preaching their confounded creed. Makers, manufacturers and purveyors of Contraceptives, have had a fair innings. Sterilisation is the latest fad. It has been wafted to Ceylon from Malaya where, my informant says, life is gayer and the lights are switched off in the wee hours of the morning, somewhere round about 3 a m. when all good men and women are lolling about in bed awaiting the birds of the air to signal that the day has dawned and work had begun.

The sequel to the cost of living going up by leaps and bounds and commodities of life having risen to unprecedented heights during the last twelve years or more, is that the middle and lower middle classes, who are so severely hit, have been compelled to find a way out of the difficulty they experience. The women folk the married women with one or two children or may be three, are now beginning to show a readiness, or is it an eagerness, to limit their families rather than continue to put up with the prevailing food and commodity-prices now risen to two and three hundred per cent. The way out of the difficulty, so they be lieve is by consenting to voluntary sterilisation which is another birth control stunt. Their idea is to limit fami-

The turning point in the cost of living began to manifest itself somewhere after the cessation of the great war in 1945 when commodiay markets showed signs of being somewhat eratic and prices shooting up with no signs of coming down. Admittedly there was a tightening of belts alround, and the question everybody had to face was one of more money. There was, of course, the cutting out of all luxurious or what were regarded as luxuries.

Admittedly the income of bread-winners among the middle and lower middle classes, or of the working classeses today, reached an alround figure that would have been considered as princely fifteen years ago. Since then living costs and so also the population have jumped up with an increase of two and three hundred

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per cent. Gone are the days when a two or three roomed house was available for little over Rs. 30 a month, when three tins of condensed milk of the "Milkmaid Brand" were procurable for a rupee, with sugar at nine centsa pound and beef was retailed at fifteen cents a pound and coconuts sold at eight to ten cents each. Those were glorious days when there was contentment, and pater or mater familias weren't worried over much about the domestic larder.

Today all that is changed and changed for the worse. And the one anxiety of a married couple with two or three children is how to make ends meet. Of course, very few house, holds have any servants. This luxury had to be cut out entirely two or three years ago. The lady of the house has now to do the marketing and even the cooking and the dish washing. Running a family has become a Chinese puzzle—a problem of great magnitude. There is no forseeable return to normalcy nor an effective solution to the problem except to restrict or limit the family. Anyway that is how the married women look upon the matter. And what else is she today?

#### Spotlight on Boxing

[Continued from page 11]

tus. Boxing thus was a life and death affair. A boxer gained victory by beating his opponent to death. With the pulverizing cestus this did not take long, the first few blows crushing the face of an opponent.

Victors in ancient cestus duels were greatly honored. Tributes were paid to them. Many were the long orations in eulogy of them. There were rich rewards. The champion ancient boxer was viewed as king of athletes, much as the

heavyweight champion of today.

Finally the deadly cestus was banned and boxers had to use their bare fists. After the decline of the Roman Empire, boxing virtually disappeared from history. Not until the early part of the eighteenth century did it make a popular comeback. This was in England, Gloves were first used in the time of Jack Broughton, "the father of British pugilism." But they were used only for practice, all prize fights being decided by bare fists. Not until late in the nineteenth century were boxing contests fought wich gloves.

Since gloves are now used, how are we to view boxing today? Boxing in which the objective is to injure an opponent, especially by means of a knockout, is what we shall consider, turning the spotlight first on the danger to participants.

#### BLOODSHED AND PUNCH-DRUNKENNESS

Discussing this matter, Harold Barnes, a veteran boxing official, wrote in The Saturday Evening Post of October 25, 1958: "I estimate that I've officiated at 6000 fights including 200 main events and 100 championship bouts. There is one other statistic I'm not at all proud of. I've seen almost as much bloodshed in the ring as if I had been working all my life in a Chicago slaughterhouse. If I had the power to do it, I would outlaw boxing. To put it bluntly, I consider boxing legalized murder. Since 1945 some 156 fighters have died from injuries inflicted in the ring.... There are more deaths per number of participants in boxing than in any other sport."

Speaking of a danger that stalks a far greater number of fighters, this veteran official writes: "Way back in the 1920's a doctor in Newark, New Jersey, made an exhaustive study

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of fighters. He found that 50 percent of those he examined were punch drunk to some degree Concerning a more recent study, Barnes writes Dr. Ernest Jokl, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Kentucky Medical School, concluded after a study of 185 fighters, while very fortunate boxers may escape serious brain damage, the great mass of fighters are not so lucky."

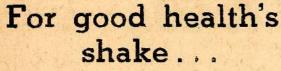
A naval chief petty officer pointed out recently in the Medical Technician that amateur boxers should get plenty of calisthenics but little actual boxing before entering the ring. The explanation: "The majority of solid blows to the head are apt to cause minute hemorrhages on the very surface of the brain."

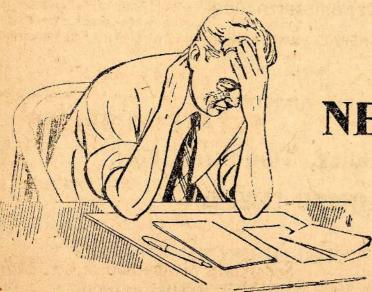
Once the brain is damaged in boxing there is little that medical science can do. Reporting on an article in the British Medical Journal by Dr. Macdonald Critchley, neurologist at King's College Hospital, Science News Letter for March 2, 1957, said:

'Punch-drunkenness is much commoner among professionals than amateurs and is very rare among colored boxers, he reported. It has been found in fighters of all weights but most characteristically in small men who had not

been particular about the size of their opponents and had taken on contestants heavier than themselves. Dr. Critchley defines punch drunk fighters as those amateurs or professionals who have undergone gradual and mental deterioration as a direct accumulated result of their careers...It is usually a matter of years before punch-drunkenness show up but once it does it is irreversible and usually advance steadily, Dr. Critchley reported. The victims may admit to few if any disabilities but complain of headaches, dizziness deafness, poor vision, intelerance toward alcohol, unsteady gait and shakiness In some cases speech becomes slurred and memory is affected."

An example of what Dr. Critchley describes was seen in the motion picture "The Harder They Fall," a film in which an actual ring wrecked fighter appears. Discussing this Life magazine reported: 'Greb, who now lives in Los Angeles subsisting on handouts, was unaware he was being filmed during his interview. He proceeded to give a spontaneous account of his homeless, lonely life. At first he spoke clearly, them ran out of brain power and had to stop talking until his mental gears began painfully to mesh again."





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### MENTAL ATTITUDE AND ASSOCI-

Turning the spotlight now from the physical to the moral aspect, the question arises: What is the mental attitude of the boxer who must seek to gain knockouts? Can he retain the Christian qualities of love and kindness or are they sacrificed on the altar of expediency? Let us see.

Following a 1947 fight with Ray Robinson, welterweight Jimmy Doyle died. At the inquest Robinson was asked why, if he knew Doyle was hurt, he continued to rain punches on him Robinson said: "Hurtin' people is my business." And so it is the boxer's business. But is hurting people the business for Christians?

Giving us further insight into a boxer's mental qualities, at least while he is in the ring, is an article in The Saturday Evening Post of January 12, 1952, by Carmine Vingo, once known as Bingo Vingo, a fighter who once showed great prospect for glory as heavyweight champion. Vingo tells now his health was permanently shattered in a fight in 1949 with Rocky Marciano. Then he went on to tell of the time he fought one of his best friends It was the first round. "He was helpless, and the crowd knew it, and I knew it too," says Vingo. "I could hear, 'Kill him, Bingo! Kill him!' and suddenly I went crazy. The guy in front of me wasn't my buddy any more. He was just something I wanted to bring down. I think I must have hit him twenty-five times . He fell hard, like a board falls. Straight back, 1 gs stiff, arms by his sides....Remembering all this now didn't give me any pleasure. It made me a little sick, in fact. I was glad I wasn't in a business a y more where you were a person one minute and a killer the next. The killer was out of me. I wondered how I d ever had it But to be a good fighter you've got to have a little of the killer in you. You can't be afraid f what's going to happen to you or the other guy. '

Is it safe and right for Christians to take a chance on losing self control and allow, even for a moment, a "killer" attitude to rule as king over their mental faculty? "The fruitage of the spirit," writes the Christian apostle Paul, 'is love, j.y., peace, longsuffering kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, self control. '-Gal 5:22 23.

Anot er facet to the moral question, one that has been spotlighted by the newspapers

recently, is that of underworld direction. Heeavyweight champion Johansson bimself wrote an article, published in Life magazine of August 24,1959, telling of his difficulty in getting any money out of the fight and exposing underworld control. "We have heard about a lot of very crooked things in American boxing wrote Johansson, "but we never realized that the crookedness could be so bad." When former heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey' had a talk with Johansson, one of Dempsey's statements was, as published in the New York Times of August 23,1959: "During the last few years the American fight game has been largely directed by underworld figures."

Is it right for Christians to be directed by or even associated with underworld figures? God's Word declares: "Bad associations spoil useful habits:"-1 Cor. 15:33.

#### FASCINATION AT BRUTALITY

What of the mental attitude of the boxing fans, those that thrill to the brutal battering that goes on in the ring? Are they mainly interested in skill, or does brutality provide much of the fascination? Says The Encyclopoedia Britannica: "That fighting or boxing has an appeal to the elemental and primitive in man, boxing's most loyal supporters cannot deny" Writer Harvey Breit, in the New York Times Magazine, say: "Take the brutality away from boxing and you have no prizefight. ... Brutality is a part of boxing, the pattern in the carpet. The most memorable fights were the most brutal."

What happens when brutality is curtailed? Science Digest pointed out in its issue of October, 1955: "Protective headgear has been advocated, even tried in profights. The fans stayed away in droves."

(Continued on page 17)

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### Don't Smoke at the Pictures

T is reported in the press that the Colombo Municipal Council with the assistance of the Health Department will start a campaign against smoking in Cinema Halls. It is stated that the proposed action—namely the framing of by-laws—is due to the failure of the appeals that had been make to picture goers to refrain from smoking in Cinema halls.

Dr. Walter Peiris in his book "Tuberculosis is Everybody's Business" published in 1957 has given, in the chapter dealing with "What the Cinema Houses and Cinema goers can Do," some very useful and practical advice which is worth reproducing:

"Medical advice enjoins people not only to enjoy fresh air, in the open, but also fresh and moving air when indoors. Inside Cinema Halls one is compelled to breathe oxygen less stagnant, impure air vitiated by cigarette and pipe smoke. The entire audience during a period of two hours or so keeps on exhaling carbon dioxide mixed with smoke. This is against all canons of breathing for health." Says Dr. Peiris further: "A number of things could be done to minimise this deleterious effect on health. In the better class Cinemas in England a scented disinfectant used to be sprayed when the atmosphere was becoming stuffy and reeking with cigarette and pipe smoke. The relief one derives and the freshness one feels after such spraying is such that Cinema authorities should not hesitate to give this benefit to their patrons. The contents of a large cylinder or two of oxygen or even of ordinary air should be released during every performance, especially when the atmosphere inside the hall becomes stuffy. The cinema-goers can make an effective contribution to prevent the atmosphere inside cinema halls from being what it is today."

"A cinema show goes on for two to two and half hours the most, as a rule, and with an interval. If smokers reserve their smoking for this interval and go out of their seats to the varandahs or near the bar much discomfort and deterioration of health could be avoided by cinema goers. Smoking (nicotine) is something that the human body does not require. Smoking is a habit and a bad habit at that. Habits after all become second nature. A regular smok-

er, therefore, becomes a slave of "My Lady Nicotine." In these days when we all talk so much of independence and freedom, isn't it a shame that so many should be slaves to smoking? Cannot the cinema, goers be without smoking for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours at the most, if they cannot have a smoke during the period of the interval and thus save their fellow cinema fans much discomfort and deterioration of health brought on by their utter selfishness?"

"In the prevention of tuberculosis it is essential that the general health of the individual should be at a high level and his lungs continuously bathed in oxygen laden fresh and flowing air. The harm that results to the health of cinema-goers could easily be minimised and without much expense if the proprietors of the cinema halls play the game by the cinema goers and the smokers among them prove less selfish.

"In these days of national resurgence, with emphasis on our culture, can we not expect the cinema goers not only to be less selfish in the interests of non-smokers but also sensible in the interests of their own as well as that of the health of their fellow beings asks Dr. Peiris.

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### Spotlight on Boxing

[Contined from page 15]

Let no one be deluded by the matter of skill. There was skill demonstrated by the boxer of ancient times who, with his metalloaded cestus, beat an opponent to death. But is skill in inflicting injury the kind of skill to become a Christian's object of enthusiasm?

is it right for Christians to make brutality a source of fascination by gazing avidly at it either at the ringside or on the video screen? Though a Christian's choice of entertainment is up to the individual, if a person finds pleasure in violence he is not cultivating the right qualities in harmony with Philippians 4.8 Here Paul tells Christians to keep their minds on , whatever things are lovable."

What kind of an example do parents set for their children when they thrill to brutality In the ring? When children get in fights, the parents, think it is terrible, disgraceful. Yet where did the children get the idea?

Is it right for Christians to relish things that are so opposed by God that they will not exits

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in the new world? The holy spirit is opposed to smiting. To qualify as an overseer in the congregation one cannot be "a smiter."- I Tim

Putting boxing under the spotlight has revealed hero worship, large-scale underworld direction, danger of injury to body or mind. danger of loss of self-control, danger of killing another or of being killed, although legally by man's laws. It has revealed brutality and fascination in brutality. Far from the fruitage of the spirit, all this stands in opposition to the spirit of God.—AWAKE

### A Pledge for the Future

PRITAIN'S determination to continue to play her part in "this unique internat ional co operat ive effort" was expressed by the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations the Earl of Home, and the Secre. tary of State for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Selwyn Lloyd in a message on the 10th anniversary of the Colombo



Lord Home

"The countries working together in the Colombo Plan have not only learned how to help each other but they have also given the whole world a fine example of how such cooperation, both by way of capital aid and technical assistance, can be accomplished.

"The Colombo Plan is making a vital contribution to the material well being and happiness of hundreds of millions of human beings and we in the United Kingdom are determined to continue to play our part in this Digitized by Noolaham Fountque International co-operative effort" noolaham.org

# The Searchlight (ESTABLISHED 1921)

For the cause that need resistance For the cause that needs assistance For the future in the distance For the good that we can do.

30th January 1960

# Political Hysteria or Delusion?

THE leaders of the various political parties who have been registering a high temperature since Parliament was dissolved appear to have taken a turn for the worse. They are at the moment suffering from hallucination and intermitent delusions caused by hysteria. They see in the newly created Ministry of Internal Secrulty an evil design intended to interfere with the General Elections. They are dead opposed to the said Ministry and to the appointment to it of Mr. Sidney de Zoysa, the ex D.I. G.P. as its Permanent Secretary. They characterise the Prime Minister's action as unconstitutional and undemocratic and accuse him of being dictatorial. Further they assert a Caretaker Government had no right whatever to create a new Ministry after Parliament had been dissolved. It seems difficult to believe that the Prime Minister would have acted in the way he is accused of acting If the Constitution did not give him the power to so act. Much less would the Governor General have permitted the Prime Minister to have recourse to anything unconsti tutional. Having regard to the relative facts and the circumstances under which the Prime Min ister appears to have been compelled to act there must be good grounds, supported by substantial reasons, for taking the step he has taken in the interests of public security which is paramount.

X X

After the Dissolution of Parliament the political climate in the country has turned distinctly adverse to all concerned.

Two events of major importance, both sudden and extraordinary, which the Prime Minister according to official information, believed to be indicative of sabotage, happened. The one was the wrecking of the Jaffna train.

at Vavuniya. This train conveyed among others, a large number of Government Servants coming to Colombo and whose services had been requisitioned in connection with the Nomination Day work. If anything untoward took place to the life or limbs of these Government Servants, the Nomination Day arrangements would have had to be postponed. This is the Prime Minister's explanation and quite a plausible explanation it must be admitted.

CALLET WITH X SETS THEX

The second event was even more significant than the first. The three day fire at the Irrigation Department headquarters at Ratmalana resulted in a loss of 10 million rupees to Government. This event, too, the Prime Minister is of the belief, was an act of sabotage although the Police is not able or willing to admit it as such. In these circumstances one must conclude that the Prime Minister acted with commendable foresight and patience. He was motivated with no other idea than taking the necessary precautionary steps to protect public interests. He therefore set up the Ministry for Internal Security and placed a competent Minister along with an able and experienced Police official in Mr. Sidney de Zoysa, the D.I.G (P) as Permanent Secretary. This move of Mr. Dahanayake indicated that he had not the same confidence in the Police who showed a tendency to be influenced by politicians.

As Prime Minister he felt that the protection of the public from any subversive activities of those inimical to Government, was a duty that devolved on him. He therefore decided to leave no room for any blame to be attached to him or his government of not having taken timely precautions against subversive forces. So he acted and took such steps as he thought desirable. But the leaders, encouraged by a hostile press, started a big howl and public opposition was immediately manifested. The Jaffna Train Wreck as well as the Irrigation Department fire, the opposition tried to make out were not acts of sabotage but accidents with which subversive forces had nothing whetsoever to do. Further they attributed the creation of the Internal Security Ministry as a diabolical move on the part of the Prime Minister to stop holding the General Elections.

Now it is clear as day light that the General Election is going to be held as scheduled and without any interruption whatever. The Prime Minister said so on more than one occasion. He declared that he and the Government was

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as keen as anybody to see that the people went to the polls to elect anybody they choose to without interference. The Prime Minister further stated he desired a clean election with no thuggery or disorder. He assured everybody full protection of the Police, the Military and even of the Naval forces and said he would see that law and order prevailed at all cost.

X 18 X 19 April 18 Ap

After such a declaration where is the need for anybody to doubt the sincerity of the Government's intentions. Of course, if by some unforseen circumstances the enemies of the Government perpetrated any incident calculated to create trouble, the arrangements already made would then stand in good stead and the creation of the Internal Security Ministry would therefore be justified as conceived and brought into being for public safety. Whether the Constitution provided for an Internal Security Ministry is another matter altogether.

It is therefore obvious that the leaders who are now up in arms had conjured up a bogey. Verily, they all appear to have a bee in their bonnets and worked themselves up into a state of hysteria. The threat of an united attack on the Prime Minister for what they consider as unwarranted, unjustifiable and even an unconstitutional act of his is difficult to understand. It must not be forgotten that we have a sensible Governor General whose political sagacity is proverbial. It is inconceiveable that such a

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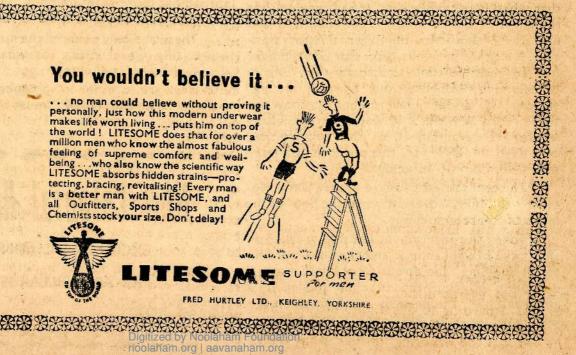
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level headed statesman would allow himself to be stampeded to taking any action which cannot be defended on the grounds of wisdom or in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Constitution. The leaders of the various parties, are only kicking up a lot of dust and in dulging in mock heroics. They need not anticip ate trouble on the face of the declared intentions of the Prime Minister. The task now before them is to conduct themselves without bickering or attributing motives and face the General Election with confidence and set upa new Government that will be much better than the Government that had to be dissolved.



# The State of the Country's Finances Today

HEN the U.N.P gave up office in 1956 it left to the MEP a legacy of Rs 312.2 millions.

Mr.M.D.H. Jayawardene, the Finance Minister of the former UNP Government in a statement made in May, 1956 pointed out details of this 'Nest Egg.'

The finances handed over were —	Millions
Treasury - Cash and Bank Balance	Rs. 128 2
Amount with Crown Agents	Rs. 69.0
Amounts due from China	Rs. 40.0
Cons lidated Fund with Rubber	x in inter-
Commissioner)	Rs 50 0
Advance becomes made to D.	D. 2F 0

Advance payment made to Burma... Rs. 25.0

Total Rs.312.2

Mr. Jayawardene states in his article in his Article:—

"It is not the actual cash position alone that has shown improvement. Our External Assets rose by some 550 millions from the end of 1953 to the high figure of 1,155 million at the end of 1955.

The last Government can truthfully assert that when it left office that it had replenished the empty Treasury which it had inherited and had also strengthened the External Assets position. No other previous successor Government had the good fortune to assume the reins of office under more auspicious financial circumstances. The present Government can draw on these reserves which if it wants it can wisely use for the devalopment of the country and can even indulge for this purpose in a large measure of deficit financing."

The correctness of these figures was accepted by the MEP Government on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Today the government lies shipwrecked on the rocks of bankruptcy and the shoals of fin ancial bungling. The direstraits of the country's economic position can best be judged by a comparison of the finances in 1956 when the UNP gave up office and how it stands today.

Cash balances Rs.215 million Rs.24.8 million

Central Bank advances NIL Rs. 172.7 million

Treasury Bills Rs 50 million Rs-435 million

External assets Rs.II77 million Rs600 million

One of the main reasons that have contributed to the financial instability was the consecutive deficit budgets presented by the Government since it assumed office. In 1956 it was Rs. 150 million, in 1957 Rs. 220 million, in 1958 was Rs. 473 million and in the current financial year the anticipated deficit is Rs. 394 million.

The Government's finances might have been still worse if not for the generous loans and grants received from foreign countries. Since 1956 up to July 1959 the Government has received Rs. 452,639,788 as loans and grants of which sum, Rs. 225,763 235 are LOANS. The bulk of this came from RUSSIA Rs. 142,857,235. This is EXCLUSIVE of the foreign aid received during the 1957 floods

Since 1956 this Governments has wasted Rs. 34 million on the payment of demurrage including that paid for coal.

The MEP has wasted another Rs.34 million on the two EMERGENCIES IN 1958 and 1959.

It has wasted ONE MILLIOM RUPEES on trips abroad.

The CEYLON DEFENCE VOTE has risen from Rs. 26 178,344/- in 1955/56 to Rs. 57,812,025 in the current budget. So has the POLICE VOTE from Rs. 28,234,826 to Rs. 39,202,130.

The amount spent on Ceylon Embassies abroad has more than doubled. In 1956 it was Rs. 4,159,161. Today it is Rs. 8,767,371/-.

These are only some of the mojor items on which this Government has squandered away the wealth of this country.

If we are to usher in prosperity through stability then the UNP, must be voted back to power.

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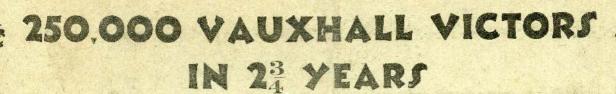
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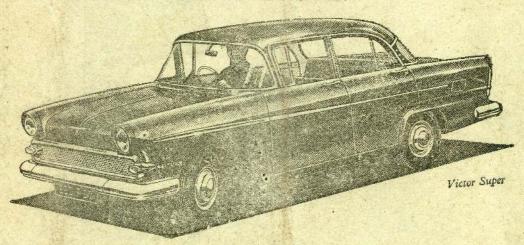
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