

Vol. 25 No 2 — July 26, 1980 — Rs. 3-00

TRIBUNE

26TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION



VIEW MOSCOW OLYMPICS FROM YOUR ARM-CHAIR!

Soviet Magazines Bring You Fully
Illustrated Accounts of Moscow Olympic
and All International Sport Events.

	Annual Sub:	Copy.
SOVIET UNION (monthly)	16.00	1.50
SPORT (monthly)	16.00	1.00
MOSCOW NEWS (weekly)	18.00	.50
SOVIET WOMAN (monthly)	4.00	1.25
SPUTNIK (monthly)	50.00	5.00

(Postage free)

PEOPLE'S PUBLISHING HOUSE Ltd.,

124, Kumaran Ratnam Road,
Colombo 2.

Phone 36111.

Letter From The Editor

THE QUESTION ON EVERYBODY'S LIPS today is how long the Emergency will last. At a public meeting last week-end the President had assured the country that the Government will lift the Emergency as soon as possible. *Tribune* is vitally interested in this question—how long will the present Emergency last? For, under the Emergency, a press censorship has also been imposed. But with Sarath Amunugama as the Competent Authority the Fourth Estate is assured of courtesy, speed and understanding combined with a strict insistence on what must be kept out. *Tribune* had first encountered Sarath Amunugama as the Competent Authority during the difficult days of the April 1971 Insurgency. At that time the *Tribune* had published a daily chronicle of events. Today, this chronicle is one of the documents most sought after by researchers interested in the 1971 youth insurrection. The *Tribune* chronicle on the Insurgency became a comprehensive, accurate and historically valuable record because of the way Sarath Amunugama approached the copy we had submitted each week. He was not a bureaucrat who found a sadistic delight in using the blue (or red) pencil. We have had other Competent Authorities since then handling press censorship who revelled in delays, unnecessary and stupid cuts and in boorish behaviour. Press censorship places *Tribune* as a paper of comment in great difficulties. But, as in the past, we shall refrain from comment on matters proscribed until the Emergency has been lifted. We do not believe in the protest of blank spaces. But no sooner the Emergency is lifted, there are a number of matters which *Tribune* will examine in some detail. Was the sudden strike at the Ratmalana Railway Workshop for the reinstatement of a dozen workers justified without prior negotiations? Was it good strategy to tag on a demand for an all-round salary increase of Rs. 300/- a month in a bid to widen the strike? Was it a poor understanding of the situation that led to some trade unions to escalate the strike or were they under the miasma of the ultra-left misconception of "spontaneity"—that workers suffering from the backlash of increased prices would rush into strike action for higher wages? Did some of these trade unions also feel that they could bring unity to the trade union (and Left) movement under a militant trade union strike? Furthermore, did the government over-react and use a sledgehammer to crush a gnat? Should the Government not seriously consider revision of all salaries (even if necessary cutting down salaries paid by the banks) on the basis of a national wage structure? Should the government not place a ceiling on salaries paid by foreign banks and organisations to top and middle level local employees? Having shown a firm determination to govern, should the government not show a conciliatory and sympathetic understanding in regard to all those who struck work? We do not know how long the Emergency will last, but our guess is that it will be for a much shorter period than many expect. These are some of the questions *Tribune* will take up once the Emergency is lifted, and in the meantime, we will deal with a number of other matters that call for urgent comment.

TRIBUNE

Ceylon News Review
 Founded In 1954
**A Journal of Ceylon
 and
 World Affairs**

Editor, S. P. Amarasingam
 Every Saturday

July 26, 1980

Vol: 25 No: 2

TRIBUNE

43, DAWSON STREET,
 COLOMBO-2.

Tel: 33172.

CONTENTS

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK	
—Third Anniversary	p. 2
HONOURING	
—James T. Rutnam	p. 3
DOCTORS, NURSES	
—Healing Hands	p. 5
GRAMA SASTRA—21	
—Well-Known Parable	p. 9
NGUVU—5	
—Work & Sleep	p. 9
AGRICULTURE	
—Production & Inflation	p. 11
CHRONICLE	
—July 5—July 16	p. 12
FILM FOCUS	
—English Films	p. 19
FISH RES	
—Co-ops. Encouraged	p. 20
HYDREL RESERVOIR	
—Rain	p. 21
CARTER DOCTRINE	
—In The Gulf	p. 23
SOVIET PROPOSALS	
—End Arms Race	p. 25
HENG SAMBIN	
—India's Recognition	p. 27
AFRICA	
—Mondale	p. 29
US-SOVIET	
—Euromissiles	p. 29
YUGOSLAVIA	
—Socialism	p. 30
WITHOUT COMMENT	
—Alibaba S. Korea	p. 31
CONFIDENTIALLY	
—Gas Turbines	p. 32

Third Anniversary Celebrations

Sri Lanka is again in the midst of celebrations this time for the third anniversary of UNP power. The picture on the cover depicts a scene that is being enacted in every part of the country, every day of the week, throughout the year. "Tribune" has made its position clear about tamashas and celebrations. This week we publish a comment from one of our readers, R. Kahawita, who has identified himself with the UNP from the days of D. S. Senanayake—that is from the inception of the party. Below's is what Mr. Kahawita says: —Editor.

We read in the Ceylon Daily News of the 9th that the 3rd anniversary celebrations of the Government "would be held at Attanagalla." Why should we celebrate annually our being in power at all, when the voters have put us in our seats for six years? The voters decided that we should be given a term to serve them and at the end of that term they will decide whether we should be given another term or not. Unless of course we are not quite sure that we can pull through the six years. Then of course pulling through three years is an achievement; and an event worth celebrating to announce it to the world—"We did it" Whether it is the first, second or third year in office it does not call for such celebrations except to distract us from our obligations and duties and for pumping courage to keep our morale up.

Why at Attanagalla? Since 1956 it was never a U.N.P. borough. It was carved out as a "pocket borough" of the Leader of another popular political Party—The S.L.F.P. The founder leader of this party has been accepted by many as one who showed them the way to assess their right to a due share in the country. How he did it, and how sincere he was in showing the way is another matter. But that party has a considerable following now led by his widow who is the member representing the Attanagalla Electorate.

The Government Parliamentary group was informed (according to C.D.N. report)

that the third anniversary of the coming into office of the present Government would be held at the Attanagalla Electorate on 21st July at Varana and Thihariya. We have repeated the news item in full because to us it is like celebrating "The Coming of Vijaya" to Sri Lanka; our coming into office. We were elected to office by the people. They do not want celebrations. They want relief and results.

Why Attanagalla Electorate? If we said "Varana and Thihariya", it would have been gracious, chivalrous, and in keeping with the "just society" we are trying to usher in. The moment we bring in a political division not represented by us as the venue of our celebrations there is a sting in it and can lend itself to be interpreted as a "punitive action". More so because of what is happening to some of the S.L.F.P. leaders and what is being done in that electorate.

The explanation for holding the celebrations there also loses its credibility value. According to the explanation Varana V. haraya is in the electorate which was represented by Sir D. B. Jayatilke one of our foremost freedom fighters and a stalwart of the National Congress—which gave birth to our Party, the United National Party. But in recent years we have not been making a fuss about the birth, death or political life anniversary of Sir D. B. Jayatilke. As a matter of fact one could say the same of many a freedom fighter or torch bearer of the struggle. People have forgotten them today. They are faced with another struggle—Struggle to Survive.

The sudden desire to commemorate a leader in his long forgotten electorate gives rise to suspicion of our motives. The present generation does not remember beyond 1956 and many not even after 1956. What they will remember and go by to pass judgement are what is happening to them today. So if we do anything that can be interpreted differently, we lose the good will of the people.

What has happened or what is happening today in Attanagalla electorate? People see and know all about them. Houses are put up on land once belonging to the S.L.F.P. leader, almost next door to his mausoleum; Presidential inquiries into their activities, when they were in power, are in session; a special Court to investigate the activities of the previous Prime

Minister is going on. There are no doubt all within the legal rights of the new Parliament.

But there can be other interpretations as to why we are doing all this. Already the leaders of the Party have explained to their supporters why all this is being done. "Victor destroying the Vanquished." The supporters will readily accept their reasons for what we say and do and discredit us, true or false, .

Even with those who are sitting on the fence, sentiment may sway them to that leadership. We have heard in the market place as to why all these are done to a party which is the only rival to our Party. Its leadership also has said the same thing on a very important occasion—"A blow to democracy to clear the path to a dictatorship."

Another reason given for selecting the Vihara is because the chief Priest of the Vihara Vihara was one who was jailed by the previous regime. This must have been done after a court trial within the law of the land. And if there were a miscarriage of justice there were the appeal courts for him to seek justice and vindicate himself. Therefore the question may be asked: Is that a valid reason to celebrate the T.I.d Anniversary at this particular vihara? They may even say it is not convincing. This is the first time a Political Party is ever celebrating annually its coming into Power.

We are outspoken. We may be just a lonely voice in the wilderness. Nevertheless we are of the belief that two wrongs do not make a right. Wrong is wrong, right is right. There is no in between to us. We believe that more damage is being done to our causa than any good. The man on whose vote we seek to be in power also does not like it. He has no time to admonish and say:—"wait I will teach you a lesson." He is waiting for a chance to live within his means. He is not interested in celebrating his present plight. So we may be alone together with the beneficiaries of our regime in these celebrations. At the end it may turn out to be an error in judgement—a sort of "mea culpa".

Need we add anything?

HONOURING A SCHOLAR

James T. Rutnam

We publish this week a note by Professor Bertram Bastianpilla of the University of Colombo on Mr. James T. Rutnam, who is being honoured with the award of the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt) *honoris causa*. Mr. Rutnam has been a contributor to the *Tribune* for many years. His first article had appeared in the *Tribune* in the third year of its existence and from that time to about 1973/74 nearly 500 articles from his pen on topics ranging from foreign affairs, local political developments and archaeology, have appeared in our pages. In more recent years, pre-occupied with other matters, he has not written as often as before for the *Tribune*. Rutnam's writings in the *Tribune* probably constitute the biggest bulk of his literary output. They mirror the developments in the contemporary era in Sri Lanka in a way that is peculiarly Rutnam's. —Editor

Mr. James T. Rutnam receive a coveted honour when the University of Jaffna, at its first Convocation, awards him the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa*. The convocation, scheduled for July 25, has been postponed.

Mr. Rutnam is well-known personality to the public of Sri Lanka because of his versatile interests and activities. However, as a talented scholar, especially in the field of History, Genealogy and Archaeology, he is a singularly remarkable man.

At an early age he established a reputation as an outstanding research scholar when he won the Walter Pereira Prize for Legal Research at the Ceylon Law College in 1927 for his study "Trial By Jury In Ceylon" which remains a solid piece of research even to this day. Since then, despite his wide and varied interests he never forsook his sedulous search for the verities as a scholar.

One can recall his numerous contributions to the advancement of knowledge and learning which firmly puts him among the leading academic research students of today.

TRIBUNE, July 26, 1980

His book on Ponnambalam Arunachalam, published for the Arunachalam Birth Centenary Committee in 1953, was a pioneering study of an eminent scholar-statesman presented in the style of a masterly historical political biography. In recent times his article on Revd. A. G. Fraser, published in the prestigious "Ceylon Journal of Historical and Social Studies", exhibits his skill as a meticulous research student. This fascinating essay, which illuminates an interesting but obscure phase of the Island's history, was followed by another informative and excellent learned contribution to the same journal on "The earliest American Impact on Sri Lanka."

Rutnam's monograph length study on "The Polonnaruwa Colossus" is yet another well analysed and critical survey of an arcane subject which has provoked much interest among the research students of mediaeval Sri Lanka. It is therefore no surprise that he has been for long a member of the Council of the Colombo Museum Committee and the Royal Asiatic Society one of the oldest associations of savants established one and a quarter centuries ago.

Rutnam is also a scholar of no mean repute in Archaeology. His article and address on "Some Aspects of the History of Archaeology in Sri Lanka" (1975) is a stimulating investigation of an esoteric subject. Similarly, the contributions he had made in tracing the ancestry of important public figures and eminent families in the history of the island demonstrate his capabilities and achievement in the much neglected field of genealogical studies in Sri Lanka. His writings in this area have lessened the burden of many research students of history and enlightened them. Because of his abiding interest and sustained study of the hoary past, he has been repeatedly elected as President of the Jaffna Archaeological Society.

Rutnam has read widely and has a passionate love of books. His academic interests, coupled with his unceasing desire to read and discover, drove him to work zealously throughout his life in many of the famous archives, museums and libraries of the world, both in the universities and outside. His invaluable collection of books, manuscripts, pamphlets and news-

paper cuttings the result of his private and unaided effort throughout the years, has always been generously made available to several university and other scholars. This formidable collection of priceless primary archival material and books has now been placed for the use of students and research scholars at Jaffna. In addition he was now set out to establish in close proximity to the University of Jaffna, "The Evelyn Rutnam Institute", named after his beloved wife, to house all this valuable material for consultation and use by research students.

Mr. Rutnam, with his amazing and uncanny memory and his wide and deep knowledge of books and men, remains an authoritative scholar on various periods and events in the history of the country. His thorough understanding of matters like that of Cheng Ho's expedition to the island and of the period during which the stormy petrel of 19th century politics, the fiery Irishman, Dr. Elliot lived has made him a consultant to the many who seek to study Sri Lanka's history. Likewise, he is an expert student of the activities of the American Mission in Northern Sri Lanka.

But Rutnam is liveliest, accurate and most authoritatively informed when he discusses either Sir Alexander Johnston, an early 19th century Chief Justice of Ceylon (who was once described by Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam as "the founder of literary and scientific research in British Ceylon") or Dundas, Fox or Digby, famous figures in British and modern Indian history. Rutnam is undoubtedly the best informed scholar on Alexander Johnston today.

Rutnam's articles on "Who Wrote the Douglas Papers", "Count d' Herveilly's Lock of Hair", "Jonville's Unpublished French Book on Ceylon", and "James Alwis's History of Ceylon" are informative historical essays on little known but important topics in our island's history. Written in a style that is lively and easy on the eye, these studies reveal Mr. Rutnam's infinite patience and enormous capacity for undertaking research, while his enviable ability to express his findings in a lucid and pleasant way has made him popularise history, a service he had rendered to disseminate knowledge.

Rutnam's contributions at several International Conferences and Seminars dealing with History, Archaeology and Tamil Studies in various parts of the world have been much appreciated by learned audiences. Because of his expertise he has served on the governing bodies of many of the learned associations, organising such conferences, as a distinguished and respected office bearer.

In the early years of his life, Rutnam had been a school teacher for some years. He has remained a teacher even to this day. Many are the scholars of varying disciplines such as History, Archaeology and Law ranging from learned senior dons to those on the threshold of an academic career, who have sought his assistance in their studies and research and benefited from the advice and aid he so freely gave. Not only has Rutnam given counsel but tea too! Such was his hospitality and willingness to help the scholar to find out what he was seeking.

Honours did come his way no doubt because of his eminent scholarship. He was appointed to the Council of the University of Jaffna, and earlier he was a distinguished invitee to the membership of the Faculty of Arts of the Jaffna Campus of the University of Sri Lanka. But, when an honorary doctoral degree is conferred by the University of Jaffna, James Rutnam, the erudite student of many an abstruse subject, receives a signal recognition of his merit which he has fully earned and abundantly deserves.

Bertram Bastiampillai

Associate Professor,
Department of Modern History,
University of Colombo.

NEXT WEEK

- D) **PESTICIDES—Majic Bullets**
by **Dr. A. C. J. Weerakoon**
- D) **INDUSTRIAL ESTATES VERSUS HOUSING ESTATES**
by **Dr. H. L. M. Salgado**
-

DOCTORS, NURSES

Healing Hands

by **Devaratnam Danforth**

SOMETIME during 1978 a US administration official advocating national health insurance declared "the highest priority must be to guarantee to all American people a quality of health care and a standard of health that our worldwide lead in medicine currently generates only to an affluent minority....." It was this same humanitarian approach that produced the National Health Service programme in Britain and Medicare under President Truman in the USA. In our own country a major share of government revenue is funneled towards the free health services in Sri Lanka. But do we in our country appreciate this?

The world has come a long way since Hippocrates practised his profession in the island of Cos in the beautiful Aegean Sea. Traditional and mystical healing rites had to be broken and a scientific approach to medicine encouraged. Disregarding all frontiers, the physicians have continued to dedicate their lives to the discovery of drugs and medicines and developing their diagnostic and therapeutic skills. Their Healing Hands were in search of the Holy Grail. The bubonic plague that wiped out many cities from the map of Europe generated a new desire to create a better world for succeeding generations. That determination can be seen to continue undiminished and we have to be deeply grateful to these men and women who have devoted their entire lives to this cause. Their Healing Hands are at the service of mankind.

IN THEIR QUEST several centuries ago, physicians in China understanding the efficacy of immunisation, encouraged the snuffing of powdered dry crusts from small pox skin eruptions with beneficial results. It also appears that in India at about the same time physicians had devised a simple but effective method of direct inoculation, called variolation, in which pus taken from a smallpox eruption was placed in a cut in the skin. Though crude, by the present standards of high sophistication this was found to be effective.

Nearly two centuries ago Edward Jenner demonstrated that vaccination against disease was possible leading to the situation when WHO has been able to declare the world free of smallpox. Another 100 years after Jenner Louis Pasteur proved again the feasibility of immunity when he too successfully inoculated a boy who had been bitten by a rabid dog. Strangely enough, another 100 years later we witness the marvels of modern surgery when Dr. Christian Barnard performed the first pioneering heart transplant operation in 1967 at Cape Town's Groote Schuur Hospital in South-Africa. Dr. Barnard's "piggy back" technique in 1974 when a second heart was implanted to boost the patient's impaired circulation and the substitution of the heart of a baboon in 1977 by Dr. Barnard because he could not find a human donor were further advances in this quest. It is reported that the latter patient survived only for a few hours. But that is beside the point. The important lesson is that these Healing Hands unrelentlessly pursue the ultimate when they could offer hope to the stricken. The tragedy, however, is that the men who seek out the Healing Hands in their moments of pain, forget them all too soon.

The progress of medical and allied scientific research was not always easy. The medicine men and research scientists together broke through several frontiers. The scientist's laboratory continues to be the focal point for research that provides the knowledge that modern medicine needs and uses with such effect. Thus equipped, these Healing Hands are in a position to improve their skills and have brought about an undreamt of freedom from many diseases and calamities. To the ordinary man it is a mere miracle to read that it was possible to re-attach a completely severed hand to the arm, as happened recently to a 17 year old girl in New York. Without those Healing Hands this girl would have remained a cripple all her life.

THE NOT TOO INFREQUENT disagreements and allegations of inadequate attention by the practitioners of medicine in our hospitals prompted me to write this brief article. Time and time again there are reports of alleged negligence on the part of hospital staff-doctors and nurses included. But let us pause to ponder what this "insensitivity" is supposed

to be. It is forgotten that unless a physician cultivates that clinical detachment to his work (which can easily be misconstrued for insensitivity) he could very well be a victim to his own pain. Who is the human being who does not suffer in the face of another's pain? Doctors and nurses are no exception.

I think the time has come when reasonable men and women should raise their voices on their behalf. It is only when a situation goes haywire that remedies are discussed. Why should a situation arise when all doctors in the same hospital fall ill at the same time? It is time that those in the citadels of power take up the cause and endeavour to create an environment that could nourish the growth of a contented body of men and women in whose Healing Hands our lives are entrusted in moments of danger. I feel very strongly about this for I have known in my own distress what doctors and nurses mean to a patient. I have known of even specialists lending a hand to carry a bed in order to ease a sick man's distress.

Doctors are routinely criticised as incompetent, insensitive and imperious. What is conveniently forgotten is that patients (and relatives) too can be disagreeable, arousing in those who care for them in our hospitals feelings of aversion and despair. I was once witness to a case where some relatives were unaccountably aggressive towards a young house officer who is one of the most delightful men with never a problem. These medicine men have to cope with unwanted and hostile responses from patients. Having been an in-patient myself recently I have seen situation which can drain them emotionally. No wonder they fall ill—the mind cannot be separated from the body. It does not need a doctor to say this. No matter what illness, emotions are very much involved. Thus a physician administers not only medicine, he has to be a psychiatrist too. He has to understand the patient (and relatives) and their thoughts and fears. To be able to play this dual role he must understand not only the patient but also himself. This inevitably takes it's toll.

The Newsweek of 1.05.78 carried an interesting article reporting some observations of Dr. James E. Groves of Massachusetts General Hospital describing four kinds of patients who

are likely to make a doctor's life a nightmare: **Dependent Clingers:** They have a bottomless need for attention and thoughtless demand at all hours of the day or night. Dr. Groves thinks that doctors must make it clear that they have not only limited skills and knowledge to offer but limited time as well. **Entitled Demanders:** They are patients who argue that they do not get the attention they are entitled to, even to the extent of withholding payment of fees. (In the local context this may refer to consultation practice). The physician is often enraged and then fearful of his reputation or secretly ashamed of his inadequacy. The physician should not allow himself to be bullied. **Manipulative Help-rejectors:** are those who take pleasure in believing that no treatment will work, no matter how optimistic his doctor may be. Dr. Groves refers to one such rejector who had ten operations in 12 years and the charts the patient had accumulated from visits to a dozen clinics filled four volumes! **Self-Destructive Deniers:** are unconsciously suicidal. They seem to enjoy their own destruction and fail attempts to heal them. Dr. Groves mentions a middle aged alcoholic who was such a patient that he was put in hospital for good. When the patient finally died, the junior resident muttered "Thank God" under his breath and the senior resident said "Amen". (I trust no one will construe this to be insensitivity).

These are tremendous problems for a man of medicine, whether it be in Sri Lanka or elsewhere. The doctor's ideal is "to know all, love all and heal all." Dr. Groves continues "but whether they like it or not, physicians must face up to the occasional patient who triggers feelings of aversion. Such reactions cannot always be wished away, and to deny them isn't good medicine."

THE PROFESSION OF MEDICINE (it seems to me) is quite unlike any other. Whether it be prince, president or pauper there is just one person and one person a one to whom he turns when his life trembles on the edge of eternity. It is the doctor's Healing Hands that are beside the bed of dying patient helping him to live until he dies. It is these same Healing Hands that are felt by a newborn babe when he is spanked into life with triumph! This is a privilege only the doctors and nurses possess. The doctor finds his shin-

ing moments when he has plucked from the jaws of death a stricken patient. I am confident that no amount of money (those who inveigh against consultation practice may note) or fame or professional eminence can buy this inner satisfaction. This I admit is true not only in the profession of medicine, but in almost any walk of life. Dr. I. S. Ravdin, Professor of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine is reported to have remarked on one occasion "The thrill that comes to the physician who has played an important part in the recovery of a patient desperately ill cannot be easily described. The inner satisfaction that results from such a circumstance is more rewarding than any words can convey and any financial gain that is received."

Whatever others may wish to do to enhance the image of the profession, it is indisputably the responsibility of the doctors and nurses to so conduct themselves that they will earn the respect, approbation and high esteem they deserve. I am reminded of an incident that took place in Calcutta. A patient dying of cancer was brought in to the home where Mother Teresa was ministering to the "poorest of the Poor". The attendant who received the case turned away retching because he could not tolerate the stench. Seeing this, Mother Teresa went across to the patient and started washing and dressing up the wounds. On the patient protesting, Mother Teresa told him "Your pain must be much greater than the stench" and continued her work of mercy and love. The high ethics of their profession demand that doctors and nurses should unfailingly make it their vocation to relieve pain and suffering remembering the oath "that into whatsoever house I shall enter, it shall be for the good of the sick to the utmost of my power."

In our own country we have had and do have men and women who, apart from their professional eminence, have brought to their profession the sacramental element that ennobles it. Not long ago I heard a patient comment on seeing his physician pass "There goes God." I know that comment came right from his heart. There was no flippancy about it—I know the story, but it is too long to relate. It would be a great day for the profession in

our country if such cases can be a universal phenomenon and not the exception.

Addressing a group of young doctors, Albert Schweitzer is reported to have declared:

You will know the joys of the healer. You will sense the inner thrill that comes with the knowledge that your diagnosis is correct. You will experience a feeling of pride as you watch your patients follow your prescribed treatment to recovery. You will understand what it means to be the unwavering source of comfort and strength to your patients and to their families.

You will know the deep, emotional fulfilment of lessening pain and suffering, and of restoring the sick and the injured to health. You will experience the satisfaction of bringing a new life into the world and of easing the passing of an old one.

There certainly could be no greater joy.

THERE SEEMS TO BE AN UNFORTUNATE TENDENCY to forget or underplay the part played by the nursing arm of the medical services in this country. Their problems cannot be far different from those of the doctors. For the nurses (from my own personal observations while a patient in a hospital) the major problem seems to be under-staffing. How would it be possible for one nurse to care for 25 to 30 patients during the day? When a doctor is present the responsibility for the patient is undoubtedly his, but the moment he leaves the nursing staff takes over. She will have to act as she thinks best and thus her responsibility towards the patient is no less important.

When a person falls ill and enters a hospital ward he is disturbed and has fears. He comes in with apprehension. Human relationships matter a great deal to the patient, who is entrusting his life to strangers and even the bravest of them can be alarmed when he is placed on a theater trolley and wheeled along the corridors to the theater. Not having been under the surgeon's knife (fortunately) at any time I cannot vouch for it, but I have been told that waiting for the moment can be devastating in its effects. It is at such times that the dedicated nurse can help and it is for moments such as these that they should receive training and orientation. And the nurse

who is able to do so will earn the undying gratitude of the patient. No other vocation demands such a degree of love and sacrifice. In nursing "a woman may not reach the ideals of her soul, she may fall short of the ideals of her head, but she will go far to satiate the longings of her heart from which no woman can escape" is a view expressed by the English nurse Florence Nightingale.

George Will writing to the Newsweek felt that "medical proficiency, while making living better, is making dying more problematic. Medicine should prolong life, not the process of dying. There comes a point in a degenerative disease when further aggressive treatment would intensify the patients suffering without substantial benefit. Then concern for the patient should become concern for a dignified death for palliative care for symptoms and needs. This point is difficult to determine because much is unknown about the behaviour of malignant diseases.....Today when mistakenly prolonged attempts at cures are at last abandoned, many doctors desert the dying, who are left unsupported at the most demanding point of their illness."

It is in the light of George Will's observations, that the efforts of Dr. Cicely Saunders and her colleagues at St. Christopher's Hospice in London demand the universal attention of those in whose Healing Hands the care of the sick rests. It has been said that this Hospice is a therapeutic community within a community, helping the dying to live until they die. Patients' needs, Dr. Saunders says, are summed up by the words "watch with me". Whether our Healing Hands "watch with me" is a question they alone can answer. On their answer will depend whether they have earned the gratitude of those who go to them for succour.



GRAMA SASTRA—21

—Scribblings On Uva Villages

That Well-known Parable

by Gamiya

WITH THE VILLAGE HUMMING in the back of my mind, I read to myself: Letters of the Third, World. I came across a reverent parody of that story in the Christian Scriptures, the Good Samaritan:

"The poor of the Third World are like robbers being plundered. Today the economic system reinforces Wholesale and Systematic plundering....."

His rich countrymen approach and see close at hand his wounds of poverty and oppression... ..and help the robbers.

Millions of Christians of the First World grow richer, in part by plundering the wounded victim.....and they walk by.

Modern prophets like the Bishops of Vatican, II, Pope Paul VI, Helder Camara, Gunnar Myrdal, Dorothy Day, U Thant, lift up their voices to condemn this intolerable, institutionalized plunder, perduring injustice..... but the plundering continues.

Foreign experts scientifically measure the depth of his wounds and the intensity of his pain ...and return to write dispassionate reports.

At times compassionate people bring him aspirin and bits of food.....and the plundering continues.

The wounded man is still there, every year poorer and closer to death.....waiting for the good Samaritan to organize, to stop the plunder, to bind up his wounds". (p. 21)

Christians may have failed christianity, as men of religion fail their religions. But Christianity—recently even through Oscar Romero who was on a Middle Path between capitalism and communism, fighting for the Rights of Man.....has always had its excellent persons. The world will testify to that: those who have lived and died to save people from the maw of evil machinations.

This is why some will take offence when we use the word or phrase, "millions of Christians". It may well be that it is not as christians

they came and did such wrong things, but can you remove a label just like that?

On hearing what I had written (I read it out) a friend said: "Don't you see, the so-called christian not living up to their ideals sent three groups.

'a catholic christian from Lusitania came and passed by the villager';

a reformed christian from Batavia came and passed him by

an anglican christian came, sniffed a little and went on to the further side of the road....

To which I added: "May be if we all get together as the Good Samaritan as "all-men-of-goodwill", we might do something."



NGUYU—5

Work And Sleep

by Bwana Rafiki

AN HOUR'S SLEEP in bed followed by two hours in bed the next night and sleeping in buses, and fortified by something that looked and tasted like a diluted version of thick, syrup, old-fashioned cod-liver oil plus iron, a desert-spoon of it instead of the prescribed table-spoon and which made one hardly feel the lack of sleep—this was my lot the last three days. A pleasant lot until sleep finally caught up with me and caused me to miss several self-made appointments. In fact I got up so groggy I was firmly convinced it was the hour of morning before dawn broke and that I had fallen asleep, and slept long, in my clothes, and I promptly got into a sarong so that I would not feel I had spent the whole night in trousers.

Imagine my incredulity when I found, and in fact I took a little convincing, self-imposed, that it was the half-hour just after sunset and that I had still to have dinner! I had been sleeping solidly since 3.30 p.m. when I had lain down for a five minutes snooze.

Dinner taken, I must have slept deeply again till 4 a.m. but I do not really remember the time, and the light would have been on as I would not have been ready to retire to bed properly. Anyway, seated again at my

desk, I found enough to keep me there till after dawn, and I wrote some pages of notes to help my lawyer when he sends in his submissions for a labour tribunal case in which I am the respondent. As the respondent has to prove his case, merely having a good case is not much use, and to a mind untrained in these matters such as mine, I think the applicant has been very very clever. Anyway, thanks to my lawyers' energy and his perspicacity, based on experience and his natural qualities, we may have overcome this. I think it is good theology to say that every court case serves a purpose, that is the cases you cannot get out of by settling it out of court. Michale Kagwa as a Resident Magistrate in Uganda used to be late at court. He told me that he turned up on time once and dismissed every case as the police who were prosecuting were not there.

BICYCLES—I must have spent in the last two years or more as much money as would have been enough to have bought me one or two new cycles in just getting the bicycles repaired that carry my milk to the Milk Board Collecting Centre. Only last week I paid out a hundred rupees on spare parts, and I had to spend something more on that bicycle just about two days later. The newspaper this morning reported that the CTB are selling brand new Indian bicycles for only Rs. 495/- and that they will soon be selling Chinese bicycles for Rs. 750/- or a hundred rupees less than they cost now in my village. The last few weeks we have been sending to the Milk Board for the morning alone seventy-eight pints of milk. Yesterday my superintendent stood in for me and recorded the amount of milk that each cow gave. He was quite sure that seventy eight and a half pints of milk were sent off. The Milk Board always claims half a pint of milk morning and evening for testing the butter fat content, or a pint a day. So counting out the half pint I converted the rest into litres and found that the ticket that was sent back by the Collecting Centre was three litres short. As yesterday's ticket recorded the highest we have had so far, I must have been robbed of a considerable quantity of milk, several hundred rupees worth for quite a long time, probably by the man who carries it.

It was with considerable difficulty that I got myself to Colombo for the simple reason that I could not get out of bed with the kind of cold I had. I had been feeding myself with disprins every four hours. The lad about the house in the end wanted to give me what was left over of his own medicines, four items of them which he said had got him on his feet in next to no time, pills dispensed by our local government doctor as I understood privately for it might have been outside office hours. Anyway I could not help thinking that the fact that they had very competently been dispensed for a fee played a part in curing him so expeditiously for mind often plays a large part in these matters. As it looked as if this time I would really get away and not lie down again, to forego the medicines and see what could be done in Colombo seemed the right course. The chemist there could recommend nothing better than panadols, and I must say they worked up to a point and enough to get me on my feet, medically so to speak, for an important engagement.

THE NEXT MORNING I was ill again. I think I had fallen asleep in my clothes and I was back at my desk in the small hours of the morning. Seven months ago someone lent me Sir Winston Churchill's only novel to read. It was a gripping tale as the subject of the novel covered Sir Winston's own ground of politics, and it was fascinating to look into the great man's mind as it was when he was a subaltern in a famous regiment in India, how he approached the subject of power then. It was also interesting to see why Sir Winston enthused so much about democracy. My hostess in the house where I was lent the book was keen that I should not hurry over the last few pages so as to finish the novel before I returned to Ceylon, and she encouraged me to bring it away with me, saying that I could post it back to her when I had finished it. I have not done so yet as I wanted to read it again as a study, for the ideas and not the prose, although that again is magnificent. Frankly, I found some of the ideas callous and shocking, and perhaps I cannot blame Sir Winston for that for after all, they are a part of a tale, both the good and the bad.

Anyway the novel has been read, and I appreciated it and enjoyed it even more at

the second reading, and noble sentiments there were that I had rather missed the first time. The story of the novel, the action compressed into about three days, is based somewhere in Africa. The other book I read yesterday was an explorer's book of the old type on Africa, a book I have been reading a long time, physically a weight centred on an enclave which seems to take in a part of the Sudan, of Ethiopia and of British East Africa, a day to day recital of events and descriptions of the country with innumerable photographs, and an attitude which displays a great love of Africa. This was at a time when Africa belonged to the world and small parties of Europeans could travel without let or hindrance or even fear among Africans who were literally armed to the teeth rather like the knights of King Arthur's time, when travel, too, was free in the consular or diplomatic meaning of the word free. Also it is not so now since diamonds became a monopoly, and gold began to prop up the world of buying and selling.

+ + +

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Production And Inflation

by R. Kahawita

We have said a mouthful in a series of articles on the above subject. The Central Bank Research Bureau and the Plan Implementation Ministry have said a painful. The A.N.C.L researchers have made a number of case studies about the performance and productivity of State-managed Agricultural projects. The sum total of all these contributions is "The country is fast losing the grip on Agricultural production and fast losing the people who should be engaged on Production". Our performance compared to what we took over in 1977 and at the end of 1979 is pathetic—in two years we have been able to set back the clock and raise the C.O.L. Index (whatever this index is worth) by almost 110 points above the 1977 December index. "It is a great achievement!"

Can we allow the most vital and important sector to be messed up by every mother's

son in Sri Lanka and let it slip back even beyond the colonial times and depend on imports for our sustenance on every conceivable food item? The Food Department has invited tenders to sell 36,000 tons of Thai, Chinese, Pakistani Rice, broken and whole. Thirty six thousand tons in not a small quantity to sell off because it is not fit for distribution. How much of this waste contributes to the escalating inflation which we are quick to blame world trends? It is time the President took serious note of what is happening to our economy, before it is too late.

Last week, The Trade Minister, in an address to the Ceylon Tea Traders Association said Government has plans to import tea to blend with our tea to regain the markets we have lost. He admonished C.T.T.A. for having "Tottem mentality" whatever that may mean. What can the poor Tea Traders do? They are traders; they will trade what ever is given to them, tea with or without nails. The Minister has not understood the problem at all. Importing tea like importing coconut to keep the oil mills running is not the solution to the situation. Since we came into power, these are two major products we have helped to run down. Next will be rubber and may be the entire requirement of rice from a seventy five percent self-sufficiency when we started the experiment in Governing, to nothing when we relinquish.

THE POINT is simply this: the tea bushes have not changed, soils have not changed factories have not changed. They remain the same as when we controlled the quality Tea Market. What has chayed is the ownership, and the Management since the L.R.C. Law No. 2 came into operation. The Tea traders do not find a place in it.

With that change crops have dropped, quality has deteriorated, initiative to improve quality has disappeared, and we are being pushed out of the market by Darjeeling and Kenya teas. The latter industry has been developed on Ceylon expertise. The same conditions prevail in those territories as when we had the supremacy of quality over them. Their soils, climate, tea bushes and factories have not changed, after we changed our ownership and management. They remain the same. We went down below them due

to our policies, ideology and all the damage political rivalry can do to a country and her people. They have got the lead, now. There is no point in blaming the C.T.T.A. What can the poor fish do? They are in search of a quick buck. If not, they will not be in business.

We wonder whether the Minister for Trade realizes that quality starts in the Tea Garden through to manufacture till it is packed into boxes and sent to traders, brokers or to auctions with the samples. If quality is poor or has not changed with the consumer preferences, the rap must be administered to the owners of tea gardens and their Managers, ie—Government and her organisations.

The President is also apprehensive of the situation. He too has voiced with great concern, "Addressing 400 superintendents of estates—they are all STATE EMPLOYEES—He said that it is urgent to boost the production of tea, rubber and coconut—if Sri Lanka were to avoid economic disaster." We say there is nothing to avoid now. We have crashed and crashed in a very serious way. The disaster has over taken us and inflation is galloping away with a speed of a Broncho.

The Trade says, tastes have changed and what is in demand now is "cut twist and curl" instead of the traditional "B.O.P."s and Tips." The response to this demand must come from the Tea estates where production starts, not in the Auction room. We have already said "initiatives have disappeared with the change of ownership and management". So what can the traders do? They will sell what comes to them and when it stops coming, they will wind up and go into the Tea import Market as the Minister has indicated in his address to the C.T.T.A.

So we are getting ready to wind up the Agricultural industry which contributed 80% to our economy to elevate us over the ages to what we are today. What is now left to us to erect a Monumental Memorial on the Galle Face Green Facing West to remember the Tea bush and the Great Planters who introduced, tended and looked after this wonder Bush to raise us from a subsistence peasant to be a rival and competitor to their ingenuity. In this we have failed.

X X X

SRI LANKA CHRONICLE

July 5-16

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA AND THE WORLD COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO.

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; CDM—Ceylon Daily Mirror; CO—Ceylon Observer; ST—Sunday Times; SO—Sunday Observer; DM—Dinamina; LD—Lankadipa; VK—Virakesari; ATH—Aththa; SM—Sillumina; SLDP—Sri Lanka-dipa; JD—Janadina; SU—Sun; DV—Davasa; DP—Dinapathi; CM—Chinthamani; WK—Weekend; RR—Riviresa; DK—Dinakara; EN—Eelanadu; IDPR—Information Dept. Press Release.

SATURDAY, JULY 5: A bill to establish District Development Council is now being drafted by the legal Draftsman's Department—CDN. Several thousand Sri Lankan students in British universities and other institutions of higher learning there have abandoned their studies because fees have more than doubled; there are approximately 18,000 Sri Lankan students in the United Kingdom—CDM. Consumers may face price rises in locally manufactured goods and items once produced here might have to be imported once more as the country's economy begins to feel the bite of the prolonged power crisis. Electricity rates will be raised from mid-August under a new rate scheme now submitted for government approval by the Ceylon Electricity Board. Private sector industry—most vital for Sri Lanka's economic modernisation—has failed to expand significantly and may remain stagnant unless major initiatives are taken, industrial experts have warned Government—SU. Minister of Home Affairs Mr. K. W. Devanayagam said yesterday that District Development Councils will be established before the end of this year—VK. Minister K. W. Devanayagam stated that all government servants who did not know the official language, Sinhala, will be given six months full pay leave to study the language; also action will be taken to grant promotions to those who have not had them due to lack of proficiency in Sinhala—EN. The Electricity Board has recommended to the government a new system of charges for electricity to increase the revenue—DV. An

Advisor to the Ministry of Plan Implementation, Mr. Mervin de Silva has reported to the government that the cultivation of subsidy crops have been completely destroyed under this regime—ATH. The People's Bank has become an institute running at a loss since the Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel took over the Bank—JD.

SUNDAY, JULY 6: Sri Lanka is offering the Bata Shoe Company one of the oldest and biggest multi-nationals in business here, tax exemption bait to persuade it to sell some of its equity to Sri Lankans. Sri Lanka's oil import bill this year is likely to be at least twice as much as last year's despite considerable savings in the import of refined products. Some of the new foreign commercial banks that have opened offices in Colombo are offering attractive interest rates ranging from 12 to 16 per cent on current account balances—SO. SLAS officers want a salary increase of 50 per cent over the scales recommended in 1978 which their union the Association of Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service says "are obsolete". The Minister of Education Mr. Ranil Wiaremasinghe, has decided to set up a planning and research unit in the Ministry of Education—ST. Sri Lanka's once internationally respected educational standards are today on the verge of rapid decline as the education system buckles under the drain of intellect and the poor input of facilities. The University Grants Commission has been directed by the Cabinet to arrive at a decision regarding a salary increase for university staff in consultation with the General Treasury. Causing damage to the country's environment through the illicit felling of trees or the breaking up of coral reefs will be considered by the Police as a crime on par with murder or highway robbery. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday pointed out that the only other alternative to the government's present development policy was the communist method where you nationalise everything and have a one party State—WK. Minister of Transport M. H. Mohamed stated yesterday that the Railway Department will soon be made into a Railway Corporation—VK. A recent survey has revealed that more men than women commit suicide: the number of men committing suicide is double the number of women committing suicide—RR.

MONDAY, JULY 7: The Moratuwa University will soon be transformed into a first class institute of Technology where advanced technological training will be imparted. A survey of attitudes about family planning among medical practitioners has been organised by the Family Planning Communication Strategy Project of the Ministry of State in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo—CDN. The four medical faculties of the Universities have stated in reports to the University Grants Commission that it was humanly impossible to increase the intake of medical students. The government has decided to increase the salaries of all public servants; so said Mr. M. H. Mohamed, Minister of Transport—CDN. The country's power situation is deteriorating with no signs of further rain in the catchment areas, a Ceylon Electricity Board official warned yesterday. A new breed of super bureaucrats may be deployed to spearhead the government's development strategies; a proposal for the creation of a Sri Lanka Development Administrative Service made by Deputy Public Administration Minister Harin Corea is now being examined by the Government. The campaign to keep Kandy city clean and beautiful got off to a start at 8.30 a.m. yesterday after a brief religious ceremony at Rajapovanatanaya, Getambe—SU. "New" government servants who joined the service after 1956 will get a pension although they do not have proficiency in Sinhala; this was examined at last week's Cabinet meeting—DP. Moratuwa University is to be developed into a workers technical-institute—DM. The decision has been taken that no TV programmes of politicians can be televised without prior permission from the President himself or the Minister of Trade; this decision has been taken after the televising of the one hour programme on Prime Minister R. Premadasa's "Gam Udawa" anniversary—LD.

TUESDAY, JULY 8: Japan has agreed to give a soft loan of Rs. 570 million through the Sri Lanka Aid Consortium to develop and modernise the port of Colombo Trade and Shipping Ministry sources said yesterday. Labour Minister Capt. C. P. J. Senewirante will present to Parliament today a bill titled Foreign Employment Agency Bill to regulate the

carrying on of the business of a foreign employment agency and the recruitment of persons for employment abroad. All University staff numbering over 10,000 (both academic and non-academic) will receive higher salaries with retrospective effect from January 1, this year, Prof. Stanley Kalpage, Chairman, University Grants Commission and Secretary Ministry of Higher Education announced yesterday. The Board of Governors of the first private medical College in Sri Lanka was elected on Friday at a meeting of the College of General Practitioners, Sri Lanka. A three year agreement covering quotas on seven categories of Sri Lanka textile products which are exported to the United States of America was signed in Colombo yesterday by the Ministry of Trade and Shipping Secretary Lakshman de Mel and the USA Ambassador D. R. Tousseint—CDN. The Government would in future allow only mature, capable and responsible women to go to the Middle East for employment in view of the alleged sordid incidents concerning Sri Lankan women in those countries; so said Mr. C. P. J. Seneviratne, Minister of Labour to questions at a Press conference yesterday at the Ministry of Labour. The President Mr. J.R. Jayewardene with the Prime Minister Mr. R. Premadasa made an inspection tour of the multi-million housing project at Randoluwa, Seeduwa yesterday; the President was much impressed with the complex which will house over 2,024 families in three different categories with up to date health centres, community centres, reception halls, libraries and shops—CDM. The Commander of the United States Seventh Fleet, Vice Admiral C. A. H. Trost, will arrive in Sri Lanka today. The Labour Ministry is formulating a series of regulations to ensure the safety of workers in their work places. The Labour Ministry is considering the amendment of existing legislation to permit women to work after 10 p.m. with special safeguards—SU. The Ceylon Electricity Board fears that the current power crisis may worsen by early next year and a series of emergency measures to meet the situation have been recommended to government by Power and Highways Minister D. B. Wijetunge—CO. A group of extremist youth, bent on creating Tamil Eelam have broken away from the TULF and are ready to go their

own way—DP. Minister of Trade and Shipping Lalith Athulathmudali said that the rupee will not be devalued—YK. 5000 employees of the Ratmalana Railway Workshop launched a strike yesterday in protest against sacking 12 employees who participated in the day of protest—DK. A new law under which an officer under the influence of liquor while on duty can be sacked if two senior officials testify, is to be included in to Institutional Act—DV.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9: Sri Lanka will soon explore the possibility of harnessing the vast store of ocean energy to produce electricity using the temperature difference between the surface and lower layers of water, a Sri Lanka National Science Council spokesman said yesterday. Sri Lanka has lost out to yet another competitor in the world tea market losing out to China in the United States market this year, latest reports from overseas stated yesterday. About 30 advertisers are to be charged for infringement of the Consumer Protection Act, Commissioner of Internal Trade, M. Ramalingam said yesterday. Sri Lanka, like other developing countries faces the grim prospect of drastically scaling down future development efforts unless alternate energy source are developed quickly; Mr. Cyril Mathew, Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs told a forum of energy specialists yesterday at the conclusion of a three-day seminar on the theme, "An Energy Policy for Sri Lanka". A gang of persons yesterday threatened with a revolver the priest of the Katarangala Rajamaha Viharaya, Katugastota and took away a gold status of the Buddha valued at over Rs. 1 million, the police said—CDN. The private medical college which will get off the ground in October 1981 is likely to charge a student Rs. 90,000 for the full five year course; £ 25,000 (about Rs. 875,000) is charged by medical college in the United Kingdom and Rs. 600,000 in India. Thieves from the Pettah in connivance with some port workers are alleged to have stolen goods reportedly valued at Rs. 18,000 from the Port. The TULF informed the Speaker that Mr. C. Rajadurai, first Member for Batticaloa and the Minister of Regional Development and Hindu Affairs had been expelled from the TULF—CDM.

More than 4,000 worker at the Ratmalana workshop of the Railway continued their strike yesterday; they walked out and stopped work on Monday in protest against the interdiction of 12 railway worker by the Transport Ministry. Comprehensive amendment to the land reform law to remove the injustice and unsatisfactory features and other anomalies will be presented in Parliament shortly by Agricultural Development and Research Minister E. L. Senanayake. UNP Member for Mihintale, Daya Walagambahu told Parliament yesterday that a family of three people today needed a minimum of Rs. 1050 a month to survive under present living costs. Revised telephone tariffs have been introduced by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications from July 4, it was officially announced yesterday. A Parliamentary Committee headed by Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has been appointed by the Speaker to inquire into the circumstances and reasons that led to the expulsion of First MP for Batticaloa, C. Rajadurai from the TULF. Celebrations to mark the UNP Government's third year in office will be held at Attanagalla on July 21—SU. The Minister of Trade Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali said that FTZ will give 40,000 more jobs next year when large scale industries approved by the government are commissioned;—DP. The railway strike which started at the railway workshop yesterday has now spread to many other branches of the railway department,—JD. The railway United Front trade union last night decided that all railway employees in Colombo and suburbs must join the strike launched by the employees of the railway workshop in a show of solidarity—DK.

THURSDAY, JULY 10: Government yesterday directed Minister of Finance, Ronnie de Mel to issue an early interim report on the review of salaries at the Railway Department, Cabinet Spokesman Minister of State, Ananda tissa de Alwis said yesterday. The government is contemplating the enactment of legislation to prevent foreign banks paying interest on current accounts, a government spokesman said yesterday. The Government yesterday approved a recommendation by President J. R. Jayewardene that Sri Lanka should ratify the United Nations' Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination

against Women. Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has decided not to give messages to newspaper supplements in future. The railway yesterday cancelled some of its suburban trains when they detected that the Colombo colour light system had been damaged at certain points; railway sources said they suspected sabotage—CDN. In future the government will acquire private lands only if State lands are not available for the purpose; this major policy decision was taken by the Cabinet yesterday on the recommendation of the Minister of Lands and Mahaweli Development Gamini Dissanayake. Trains on the five major lines were given police-escorts following threats by workers of disruption of train services; however, only a few trains left Fort and Maradana stations after almost seventy five percent of the minor employees of the Railway department, who included ticket checkers, and porters, joined the strike of the running shed employees last afternoon in support of certain demands—CDM. Opposition-backed trade unions yesterday crippled the country's train services by a wildcat strike that left thousands of commuters stranded. Top electronics experts from the Police and the Customs yesterday examined a consignment of sophisticated sound amplification equipment sent as a gift to a politburo member of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP)—SU. A number of countries have requested Sri Lanka to supply coconut and coconut oil at unprecedented prices; some countries have expressed the desire to buy a coconut at Rs. 3/50 or more; but the country cannot supply coconut as the production is only sufficient for local consumption—DM.

FRIDAY, JULY 11: Sri Lanka's position regarding the recognition of the Kampuchean regime remained unchanged, Acting Foreign Minister, Tyronne Fernando told Parliament last night. A new petroleum complex and oil refinery (which at rough estimates could cost anything up to Rs. 10 billion) are among the proposals made by South-East Asian Oil Co. of the USA in its overall proposals for oil exploration in Sri Lanka. The Greater Colombo Area will have 60,000 telephones by next April, when the Colombo area Development Scheme (CADS) stage 2 is completed. All academic staff in the universities in Sri Lanka will be given a 15 per cent increase in

salaries with retrospective effect from January 1, 1980. The final take home pay of most teachers has increased only by a negligible amount says the Federation of Teachers' Associations of the Universities of Sri Lanka. Seven Maldivian rationals, including former Maldivian President, Ibrahim N. sir, his brother-in-law Ahmed Naseem, former Deputy Minister of Fisheries of the Maldivian Government and five top businessmen will face charges of conspiracy to overthrow the Maldivian government. The railway ran several trains yesterday despite a continuing strike by one category of railway minor employees—CDN. The Minister of Transport M. H. Mohamed yesterday authorised the Railway authorities to employ sons of railway workers who have remained at their posts. One of Asia's most prestigious technology institutes Asian Institutes of Technology in Thailand now has a system to produce Bio-gas using night soil mixed with rice straw and water hyacinth—CDM. The escalating rail strike yesterday continued to disrupt the country's train services; several scheduled train services did not operate; in a bid to avoid a total breakdown, the Transport Ministry was compelled to introduce a series of special trains to help commuters. Any attempt to disrupt services essential to the life of the community will be firmly dealt with, highly placed Government sources warned yesterday; police meanwhile drew up a contingency plan to protect government institutions and also deal with the problems which might arise out of a possible escalation of the situation; these moves were made as five Opposition parties—the SLFP, TULF, LSSP, Ceylon Communist Party and the Mahajana Eksath Peramuru (MEP)—announced their support for the rail strike. President J. R. Jayewardene has directed the Police to launch an immediate offensive against the cultivation and distribution of narcotics in Sri Lanka. The Family Planning Association will conduct a mass vasectomy (male sterilisation) motivation and service programme at Galkirilagama in the Mahaweli development area from July 12 to 20—SU. Under special orders from President Jayewardene, the Transport Ministry is making arrangements to send out special trains so that the distribution of food, oil etc., will not be disrupted in the provinces—DP. The government has decided to divide amongst those

who are working the salaries of those railway employees who are on strike—VK. Five opposition parties in a joint communique expressed their support to the railway strike—JD. With the increase in the imports of motor cycles, motor cycle accidents have increased sharply 45,000 motor cycles have been registered in the last 3 years, 30,000 of them in the last six months—LD.

SATURDAY, JULY 12: Heavy rain in the catchment areas of the hill country hydro power reservoirs during the past 48 hours may lead to a relaxation of the current five hour power cuts, an official spokesman said yesterday. Ocean vessels of any description belonging to any nation could be serviced in Sri Lanka when the dockyard modernisation program is completed, official sources said yesterday. A Sri Lankan psychiatrist has recommended to health authorities that a school counselling service be set up to wean high school students away from the drug habit. Leave of all railway employees has been cancelled with immediate effect, the Transport Ministry said yesterday. Cigarettes will cost one cent more from today—CDN. Legislation will be introduced shortly in Parliament banning Government Departments from leasing State Lands to the public or the private sectors. Sri Lanka has ratified ILO convention No. 89 concerning night work for women employees in industries, according to a press release issued by the Women's Bureau of Sri Lanka, Ministry of Plan Implementation. Transport Minister M. H. Mohamed told the Daily Mirror yesterday that the present railway strike is a strike without any official demands; it is a mystery strike because no demands have been sent either to the railways or to him as the Minister of Transport—CDM. The Sri Lanka police have requested interpol to alert all member countries regarding the theft of famous Katarangala Buddha statue, which was officially valued yesterday at Rs. 20 million. There was extensive sabotage of the country's rail service, Transport Minister M. H. Mohamed declared yesterday; this led to the disruption of the train services from Monday; on Wednesday, the railways operated only fifty percent of its services and today we expect it to be seventy percent, he told a news conference held in his Ministry yesterday. Those indulging in attempts to sabotage

essential services face charges of conspiracy a non-bailable offence, Police warned yesterday. Government has decided to issue 50 gallons of diesel or the equivalent in petrol free to all Members of Parliament every month; this free fuel issue will be made available to members not holding any official post and will not be provided to Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and District Ministers—SU. Speaking at the seminar on "Parliamentary Process in Sri Lanka" the President said that to win the presidential elections under the new constitution it would need the help of the minorities—DP. A large number of trade unions have decided to join the present railway strike to demand a salary increase of Rs. 300 per month; this move could flare up into a massive General strike—ATH.

SUNDAY, JULY 13: The Singapore Shipping Millionaire Y. C. Chang has entered into a collaboration arrangement with the Ceylon Shipping Corporation to operate a fleet of feeder ships that will haul cargo from the East and West Coast of India, Bangladesh and Pak'tan for consolidation here and transshipments on the major routes. The Moscow Olympics opening next Saturday will be brought to Sri Lanka drawing rooms via the Soviet orbit satellite hovering over the equator south-east of the island, Mr. Sarath Amunugama, Secretary to the Ministry of State said yesterday—SO. A Ministerial Committee has recommended to the Government that public officers whose services were terminated due to non-proficiency in Sinhala should be recalled to service if they are within the employable age—under 55 years—ST. The worsening international economic environment and in particular the projected deterioration in terms makes what a year ago was an ambitious strategy an almost impossibly difficult one, says the World Bank commenting on the country's economy in a report titled SRI LANKA - KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN THE 1980s. Sri Lanka has taken one more step into the era of modern finance with the establishment of its own credit card scheme by a major local firm. The City Police yesterday assigned four top investigative teams to probe the alleged acts of sabotage committed on the Railway's installations in Colombo—WK. An island wide general strike is being planned for August 21 in support of the demands of the railway

employees—VK. English teachers from abroad are to be brought down to train local English teachers—RR. Organisations representing local firms which make vehicle spare parts have requested the government to help them out of the difficulties faced because of the free import policy—SM.

MONDAY, JULY 14: All examinations at the universities will be held as scheduled despite the resignation of some academic staff from the posts of professors and heads of departments over the salary issue; all overseas leave of members of the academic staff in faculties where heads of departments and deans have resigned and who are not participating in the conduct of exams has been cancelled, Prof. Stanley Kalpage Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education and Chairman, University Grants Commission said yesterday; the exams at Co'ombo University begin today. Prime Minister R. Premadasa said that 156,000 more families in Sri Lanka would have their own houses by 1983 following the housing development projects undertaken by the government. Four trade unions that joined the railway walkout on Wednesday evening have decided to return to work, the Transport Ministry said yesterday. The final phase of the estate schools takeover that brings in 366 estate schools into the national educational structure begins today—CDN. The Ministry of Transport yesterday claimed that the current rail strike has been initiated by disruptive elements without the knowledge of the unions concerned. Rs. 20,000 has been offered to any person helping the police recover the priceless gold Buddha Statue stolen last Tuesday from the Katranagala Rajamaha Viharaya in Hal'oluwa in the Katugastota Police area—CDM. Foreign firms operating here as off-shore or external companies will be given the additional concession of establishing their own industrial units in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka's efforts to artificially create rain in a bid to meet the power crisis, continues with the arrival of a second team of Thailand experts and an appeal for assistance from other countries with rain-making technology. President J. R. Jayewardene has approved a proposal to allow state counsel of the Attorney General's Department the right of private practice—SU. The General

committee of the TULF Youth wing has decided not to break away from the party but to operate under its leadership while at the same time preserving its independence as the Youth group.—VK A split occurred in the Front of the TULF meeting held in Batticaloa when a group of extremist youth walked out, demanding that the youth wing should break away from the party. In order to circumvent the shortage of nurses, Minister of Health Gamanil Jayasuriya has decided to increase their working hours by 4 hours a day—DP. Trade Unions of the Joint Trade Union Acting Committee have declared that they will carry out a general strike immediately—DK.

TUESDAY, JULY 15: The government said yesterday that some Trade Unions associated with the Joint Trade Unions Acting Committee controlled by the Opposition parties were attempting to call a general strike and warned that it would not be pressurised in any way by threats of a strike. Not a single internal undergraduate turned up yesterday when the Colombo University began its first Examination in Science, Arts and Law for 1980; the position was the same at Kelaniya University and Sri Jayawardenepura University; over 1000 undergraduates were due to sit the examination. A modern radio isotope disease investigation unit is being installed at the Medical Research Institute, MRI Colombo. The Health Ministry will shortly publish a White Paper on the decentralisation of the Health Department—CDN. Government yesterday warned all state sector employees that they would lose their jobs if they did not report for work on the day of the proposed strike called by the Joint Trade Union Action Committee. Councils of the Universities of Colombo, Kelaniya and Sri Jayawardenepura have decided to take a tough stand against students who boycotted their first year examinations which began yesterday. The Central Bank of Ceylon has cautioned all commercial banks operating in the country against paying interest on current accounts—SU. A large number of Trade Unions of the Railway department which participated in the railway strike have re-called their members to work saying they have been misled—LD. President Jayewardene has advised all section heads not to waste or misuse power, office rooms and vehicles—DM. A massive rally in

support of the striking workers is to be held on the 18th—JD. Employees of the Government medical stores started a strike at 12 noon yesterday. A large number of Trade unions in other public services will join the strikers on the 17th or 18th of this month—DK.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16: A highly irresponsible trade union action—this was Health Minister Gamanil Jayasuriya's pithy comment on the sick-note campaign the public Services United Nurses's Association launched yesterday to press some of their outstanding demands. The government began mobilising all volunteers of the Army, Navy and the Air Force yesterday as a strike by nurses reporting sick on mass, paralysed the country's hospitals and other unions were preparing to call a general strike to press a demand for an instant wage increase. Minister of Education, Employment and Youth Affairs Ranil Wickremasinghe said yesterday he would have no dealings with teachers who strike; any teacher who strikes would be dismissed and a new recruit taken to fill the vacancy. Some of the undergraduates who kept away from examinations conducted by the Universities on Monday reported for their examinations yesterday; however, a large majority of undergraduates kept away yesterday—CDN. The President, Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, who is also Minister of Higher Education has assured that police protection would be given students who are willing to sit their examinations. Train services operated smoothly yesterday after a large number of railway employees who were on strike returned to work according to a senior official of the Ministry of Transport—CDM. Units of the Army, Navy and Airforce will be deployed from today to help Police maintain law and order; the move last night stemmed from Government's desire to ensure the normal life of the community is not affected as a result of a threat by opposition-backed trade unions to stage a general strike—SU. Strikers will not be permitted to congregate on the streets nor demonstrate at their work places, police Headquarters has said—VK



English Films

SOMEONE somewhere is fouling up the advertisement methods of many excellent English films that are being imported with the nett result, that unless the quality of a film gets around by word of mouth, it is bound to flounder at the Box office and give an erroneous index to connoisseurs of the best in cinematic entertainment. I have reviewed two films below which would have suffered the fate but for timely intervention. In the case of the film "Neither The Sea Nor The Sand" a first week's collection of rupees sixteen thousand, due to indifferent advertisement, shot up a hundred percent, when the management suddenly became alive to the poor returns, which were not in proportion to the excellent production, and decided to step it up in the secular press. The current release "Foul Play" too, which had as its central theme, a plot to assassinate a Pope, as in the style of the film "The Day of the Jackal", where General Charles de Gaulle was a target, does not mention His Holiness at all in the relevant advertisement with the result that the returns of the counter are yet remaining minimal and keeping the patrons guessing. That Good Wine needs no Bush is only an exceptional truism in the field of foreign films, and I hope these lines will catch the eye of Chairman Anton Wickremasinghe of the State Film Corporation in the interests of the greater good of the local picture-goers, who are also handicapped by lack of advance literature of an imported film. A co-ordination of procedures between the Managements and the Corporation would be the only solution, so that both Institutions may benefit in the long run.

NEITHER THE SEA NOR THE SAND

(English): In the midst of the films that dwell on violence and sex, besides toeing the strict formula line, it is a welcome "shower" to be drowned now and then emotionally, in a sea of sentiment, by a romantic story that sways and sears one's soul with the purity of 'Love'. This release that gets you in its sentimental grip, skirts stylishly in the unusual presentation of a story written by Gordon Honeycombe, involving two lovers (Susan Hapmsphire and Michael Petrovitch) whose affections for

each other bloom in appropriate settings, having been sparked off at the foot of a light house in a casual and brief encounter. With the light house presiding toweringly over the ebbs and tides that glow around it, and taking in the lovely landscape on the horizon—all is taken in beautifully by the camera. At its very peak, this emotionally and physically consumed ardour of the lovers strike rock, when the lover is struck down suddenly by a fatal myocardial infarction, seconds after he had pledged his loved one, that he would never part from her. It is from this point onwards that the story gathers momentum by the 'physical' arrival of the lover, crossing the barrier of death and dodging its stings, but completely devoid of his human sensitivity, to rendezvous around and redeem his eternal promises. How all this ties up with utter pathos is for you to find out, but be assured that the ensuing sequences will catch you unawares, with a power that will keep your heart pounding to the very last reel. While Susan was positively brilliant in a role that flitted from ecstasy at one moment, to agony at the very next, it was newcomer Petrovitch who moved effortlessly from a very moving to a macabre presence, that spelt victory over death in "Love". Adults, do not miss this film, its sentimental aroma will linger and last for a lifetime.

FOUL PLAY (English): My decision to visit the Savoy to see this Paramount release was just one on my regular routine beats, but I was quite unprepared for the excellent entertainment that was sprung on me. From the word go, there was never an idle moment to the very last reel, revealing the directorial excellence of Colling Higgins, who was also behind the script. What was advertised as a mere comedy thriller, jolted me, as the story sped on, leaving several cold corpses around, in racing to a climax, where the Head of the Roman Catholic Church came into the firing line of a giddy gang that envied the wealth of the Vatican and the well organised religion the Papacy stood for. Quite neatly sandwiched in the ghostly plot were some lighter sequences that did not detract the punch that it packed. Actress Goldie Hawn—the modern Bridgette Bardot—takes on very cleverly, for the first time I believe, a rather

serious role, far removed away from her previous ones, as she stumbles on the ghastly plot by mere chance, and becomes a constant target for brutal elimination. She has a score of near brushes with death, while her cop companion (Chevy Chase) played it a little too cool. As an aging Black Belt Champ of 1945, Burgess Meredith enlivens the story. The music of Charles Fox and the nerve racking climatic sequences to the strains of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" served to steady the nerves as the countdown for the foul act ticks on. The superlatives I could muster would not do adequate justice to this excellent entertainer—see it at any cost.

GRAY LADY DOWN (English): In technicolour and Panavision, this film has been buttressed by authenticity in its prevention by the assistance of the United States Navy, which in doing so has also boosted its latest Deep Submergence Rescue Unit (DSRU), stationed in San Diego, California, which rushes to the assistance of submarine crews doomed to a watery grave. It is no Mount Sinai climb for that Biblical character actor Charlton (Moses) Heston, who captains the nuclear submarine "Neptune" which plunges nearly 14,000 feet—the casualty of an accident with a trawler, while cross cruising around. The story proper, centres around the saving of the Captain and his crew as they sweat away, with a little breathing time left, while a sister ship 'Nassau', a DSRU unit and a Battyscaphe manned by actor David Carradine, come together to pit their technical skills and save the doomed men, executed to a perfection, that suffocates even the audience. I thought this film gathered in one sweep all the tense and exciting moments that such an operation called for. Sit this one out with the family for it is educational and grimly speaks for the nuclear times we live in, with so many subversively moving submarines moving uninvitedly around our waters.

JAMES N. BENEDICT.



TRIBUNE, July 26, 1980-

REJOINDER

Fisheries: Co-ops Encouraged

—an official statement—

With reference the letter written to Tribune on 12th July, 1980 by Rev. Father Emmanuel Fernando regarding "Fisheries in Sri Lanka", Mr. Anura Weeraratne, Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, has sent us this official statement.

In this letter Rev. Father Fernando has pointed out several facts of historical relevance regarding the mechanization of the Fishing Industry and the system of Fishermen's Co-operative Societies and has stated his views regarding the present development in the Fishing Industry and the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies.

A clarification appears to be necessary regarding para 11 (on page 10) of this letter.

"The present U.N.P. Government does not promote Co-operative ownership and management in the fisheries sector. Individual ownership is encouraged and financially supported".

The above views would appear to be incorrect if one were to examine the course of action taken by this Ministry regarding the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies during the past three years under the administration of the present Government. As stated in para 10 of the letter of the Rev. Father, all the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies were in a paralysed state at the time this Government came into power as a result of the deterioration they had undergone during the period 1970-77. Over 350 boats out of the 900 boats issued to these Societies by the Government were in an unserviceable condition. Furthermore, every Fisherman's Co-operative Society was operating at a loss and was indebted to the Government and Commercial Banks. In order to obviate this situation and re-organise the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies, the scheme for transferring boats to skippers after completion of repayment of loans was introduced by this Government. Under this scheme, there has been an improvement in the maintenance of boats, in the inputs into the fishing industry while a great progress was shown in the repayment of loans. Under the South West Coast Project financed by the ADB 200 three

and a half ton boats were issued through Co-operative Societies. Because of the new system of transferring them to skippers after the repayment of loans, it was found that in the case of 25% of the boats the repayment loan was completed before the expiry of the pay back period. In fact, in certain cases repayment was completed within 10 months, even though the pay-back period is 8 years. The Co-operatives are hopeful that the repayment in all the boats under the new scheme will be completed before the expiry of this 8 year period.

The reorganisation and the development of the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies under the present Government is such that a number of these Societies having formed into unions are today profitably engaged in the marketing of fish through retail sales outlets and the use of insulated trucks. Hence, the supply of boats to Fisheries Co-operative Societies under the hire purchase system has been further expanded. It has been planned to issue during this year alone over 200, three and a half ton boats to Fishermen's Co-operative Societies and approval has already been granted for the same. In addition this Ministry is presently negotiating with the Commercial Banks with a view to provide the necessary credit to Fishermen's Co-operative Societies to enable them to obtain boats and Fishing Gear under a subsidy scheme.

Recently Co-operative by-laws were amended to enable the election of five members to the Directorate out of a total of 9 from the general body in order to increase the representation of fishermen in the management of the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies. In addition steps were taken by this Government to appoint the Director of Fisheries (Regulation & Extension) as the Deputy Commissioner of Co-operative Development in respect of the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies.

It would be clear that the present Government has taken steps not only to re-organise the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies for the purpose of providing a better service to the fishermen by improving their efficiency which was diminished during the past but also to expand the provision of loan facilities and also to widen the scope of activity required by them.

HYDREL RESERVOIRS

Rain Making

by R. Kahawita

THERE ARE TWO VERSIONS to the success of the recent attempts at seeding rain bearing clouds. One is a success story and the Government is contemplating setting up a permanent body "to make rain". On the other side, the Chairman C.E.B. says that there is no hope of normalising power supplies. No water in the reservoirs. The picture as presented in the Government controlled mass media is so contradictory one cannot trust the veracity of what is put out for mass consumption. Who knows it may be to discredit the Government—"Bite the hand that feeds it."

This is not the first time that attempts were made to seed clouds in Sri Lanka. In 1960 Dr. Ghose of India made several sorties over the catchment of Labugama Reservoir to induce rain over it to replenish a depleted reservoir without success. It did rain but never able to establish as "run-off" to impress the reservoir levels. We will explain this now.

We made several studies to find out why seeding of clouds was not successful to replenish reservoirs, normally fed by the run-off from the catchment of the "feeder river systems". Seeding may be useful to save a standing crop provided the clouds are made to shed the rain where it is needed. This is not possible because man has not learnt yet to control the winds. The rains may come down in areas where rain is not necessary and damage the crops in those areas. One has to exercise caution in such attempts.

IN OUR REGION eight weeks of continuous drought accompanied by low humidity, high temperatures are common. Accompanied by a surface wind velocity of around five miles an hour can desiccate the soils to a depth anything up to three feet, and reduce the moisture in the soil far below the wilting point. This is what happens in between each monsoon season. If the monsoon rains fail the conditions worsen. Currently this is the experience. And the result is there is no flow in the rivers to fill up the hydro-Reservoirs or other reservoirs depending on rivers to maintain the storage levels.

In the North-east quarter of the Island it seldom rains from June to September. These are the driest months; rainfall may average 2.00 inches to 5.00 inches per month. By the time the North East monsoons set in everything is bone dry. With the onset of the monsoons in mid September, it takes around 12" of rain to strike a balance between natural supply and demand. That is to say, to saturate the dry earth, plant or vegetation Intake of moisture, to replenish the sub-soil "temporary water table", and to fill up small depressions, natural or man made, about 12" rain are required.

Such Intensity of rainfall should be realised within three to four weeks. Thereafter any rainfall will establish surface runoff in the first instance as a gentle flow in river systems to be followed by floods. It is this kind of rainfall patterns that can bring water to the reservoirs. If the rains continue then the soil itself builds up storage to be released as "residual flow" into the river systems after the rains, or as the floods subside in river basins. These rains will bring the reservoirs to the spill levels etc. according to the capacity of a reservoir to its catchment.

Among the peasant community the second spell of rain they call it the "seven day rain", that raised their hopes of a maha-season. It rains, intermittently for about seven days but with high intensity. At the end of this rainfall their tanks are full or spilling and they are ready to get into the fields for the Maha cultivation. In the wet zone the dry intervals are not so regular nor so prolonged. But there are years it can be so or even worse like December 1977 to April in 1978. Again January to May in 1979 and dry hot days in February to May in 1980 which is causing the anxiety over power supplies and the reason for the rain making sorties to the clouds.

WHETHER IT IS in the wet zone or in the dry zone the pattern of rainfall must be similar to strike a balance between inflow and outflow and to begin a build up of storage; except in the wet zone system the initial rainfall to establish flow is around 4 to 5 inches of rainfall in two weeks. We have understood the problem but we cannot time it. This is what is causing all the confusion.

Unfortunately man has not mastered the technique of generating monsoons or creating

a rainfall pattern as described and necessary to replenish the reservoirs, hydal or irrigation. On the face of this, it is futile to attempt to generate storms or persistent rainfall by seeding the clouds in a small confined area and hope to replenish the reservoirs. We believe in it because of our ignorance. There is no "Rain God" to be satiated by seeding the clouds and expect the God to drench the mother earth. Nevertheless Rain making and setting up of a permanent "unit to make rain" has propaganda value, like many other things we do only for that purpose and nothing else. For this you and I have to foot the bill.

What is needed is more effective and meaningful management of our water resources and where this is impractical to set our targets and objectives as described in the previous article—"A Scheme for Power development and Management."

Though water is not an exhausting source of energy, available year in year out in the same areas, its quantum is limited and varies according to its own cyclic patterns. How these changes can be fitted into a design to maximize its use is the task before the experts and the water management authorities. At Victoria Falls, though the present designs contemplate a 400 ft. high dam, 1663 ft. long at the crest to hold 590,080 Ac. ft. of water, as reported in the C.D.M. of 7.7.80, it does not mean that the reservoir will fill to capacity every year.

TO US THIS IS HIGH STORAGE and high head development of the site. However storage is influenced by the quantum of flow reaching the Dam. There will be years it will not fill. This we cannot help. And the pattern of replenishment is likely to be 40% low and 60% high as experienced with the rainfall patterns in the past. We have not been able to change this, may even worsen as forecast in Global weather changes. At the end, what is planned at Victoria may prove to be a colossal blunder. The gravity of the situation will surface when the million acres are fully developed with a vast population settled in the area, depending on Mahaweli water for their survival. At present we are not thinking of the future, we are looking for monuments and memorials to landmark our era. A very costly way of doing it.

What ever the size and number of hydro plants are, such power will have to be supplemented by thermal generation on an average of 120 days in a year. The operation of thermal plants will depend on consumer patterns and how fast development will grow compared to the plans for power generation. But we have to be prepared to meet a 120 day shortfall in a normal year.

The Minister for Mahaweli has asserted that thermal generation is necessary. We add to that, that recourse to thermal power is around 120 days in a year. This is the first principle to guide in the design of thermal generation particularly to the private sector bulk consumers. This is in keeping with what we suggested in our last article on the subject.



CARTER DOCTRINE

In The Gulf

London, July 19,

According to reports reaching the British capital, the new military agreements of the USA with Kenya, Somalia and Oman have begun to cause anxiety in many African capitals. The simultaneous arming by the US of Somalia and Kenya has, according to these sources, created an explosive situation in the Horn of Africa. This, it is reported, might again lead to bloody clashes involving not only Somalia and Ethiopia but Kenya and Djibouti as well. The Government of Siad Barre which up to now has not dropped its claims to territories of Ethiopia and Kenya is building up its military strength with the assistance of the USA. It is further reported that at recent talks with the Americans the Somalians had asked for weapons including medium-range missiles, tanks and heavy artillery at a cost of \$ 1 billion. American, Egyptian, Chinese and Pakistani instructors are said to be in Somalia to train the military forces.

Operations of Somalian military units, have been activated in the Ogaden and North-Western province of Kenya adjacent to Somalia. Siad Barre is said to be using an old familiar cry to get the military and diplomatic support from the USA—with the alarmist hue and cry of "Red" help to bolster Ethiopian "ag-

gression". Military experts in Europe have commented that all indications point to intensive preparations by the Somalian Army to get ready for war. It is also stated that Siad Barre has cunningly misled the Carter Administration by promising to use American arms only for alleged "defensive" purposes. Knowledgeable observers have not the slightest doubt that these weapons would be used for offence and not necessarily against Ethiopia. The high command of Somalia have not hidden their desire to launch pre-emptive attacks on Kenya and to occupy Kenya's North-eastern territories partly to be used as an additional bridgehead in the war with Ethiopia. The British paper *The Guardian* in a perceptive article on US-Somalian military co-operation has stressed that "never before have the Americans chosen more unreliable ally in the Third World."

The building up of the USA's military activities in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf and East Africa has also according to the latest reports, understandably, caused alarm in many independent and non-aligned states of this region. Observers here have pointed out that if the US actions were analysed from the point of long-term objectives of American policy it was clear that they are aimed at ensuring of the USA's absolute supremacy in this part of the globe for as long as possible and to thereby exert pressure on independent sovereign nations and to control African and Asian emancipatory (political and economic) movements. It is also pointed out that in their desire to secure their strategic political and economic positions of strength the United States ignores the interests of the developing countries of these regions and this introduces a destabilising factor which inevitably causes disruption. It has also been pointed out that some from a misguided and narrow perception of their national interest have granted military bases and facilities to the US and that this has undermined the solidarity and common stand of the Third World. This has also violated the basic tenets of the Non-alignment which fights against hegemonism, imperialism and neo-colonialism in all their manifestations.

Latest reports reaching London show that some of the countries which the US had thought

were in their military network have developed second thoughts about the wisdom of their undertaking to provide military facilities. The Kenyan government has now blocked a military exercise in which 1800 American marines would have landed in the country, according to a *Reuter* report from Washington dated July 16. "The marines are in the Indian Ocean on five amphibious ships from the United States' Sixth Fleet. Pentagon officials said that like a similar battalion from the Seventh Fleet, which was in the Indian Ocean for 10 weeks until June 1, the unit was sent to demonstrate continued American military presence in a region of strategic importance to the US. Other administration officials said efforts to arrange a marine landing exercise in Kenya foundered because of the Nairobi government's reluctance to appear too closely identified with American military moves in the area. The two countries announced last month they had agreed that US forces could use the port of Mombasa and Kenya air and naval station in a crisis.

"A similar agreement with the Gulf State of Oman was announced earlier but negotiations with Somalia have bogged down in political and economic disputes. Pentagon and State Department officials said all three Governments were non-aligned and sensitive about any public identification with either the Western or Eastern military blocs because this could tarnish their standing in the Third World. 'They want to help us', one official said, 'but they don't want it public, they don't want to read about it in the press.'" Another official said the agreements with Oman and Kenya and the one being negotiated with Somalia 'all leave a veto power in the hands of the sovereign nation that we are dealing with.'

"Officials said the three governments wanted US military protection against any Soviet aggression in the region, but they also reserved their rights to bar American use of their bases in more subtle crisis or for operations that could embarrass them politically. Oman protested when news reports said bases there were used to refuel American planes in the failed operation last April to rescue American hostages in Iran. Iran is only a few miles from Oman, across the Straits of Hormuz. Officials said similar sensibilities

led to Kenya's decision not to allow the marine landings. One official said Washington had similar difficulties with West European allies, who closed their bases to US planes supplying Israel during the 1973 West Asian war. Turkey had repeatedly insisted that American bases were to be used only for defence of the Western alliance and not for other US operations in the West Asia or the Gulf region.....". *Reuter* concluded its report quoting an unnamed American official as saying "The United States is not now, and probably has not been for 10 years, if ever, in a position to impose its will on other people. All we can do is try slowly to improve our access."

Obviously, the openly hostile reactions among nearly all African, most Middle Eastern and many Asian countries to the "agreements" entered into with Kenya, Somalia and Oman with the US to provide military base facilities already seem to have had some impact on the Governments of these three countries.

In the USA itself serious doubts have been expressed about Carter's Persian Gulf policy. *The Newsweek* of July 14, in a revealing and penetrating article pointed out: "..... When Jimmy Carter drew a firm strategic line around the Persian Gulf oil fields last January and warned the Kremlin not to cross it, his 'Carter Doctrine' was so much bluff: America's military assets in the region amounted to a trifling fraction of the Soviet power at hand. But since then, the Pentagon has been working flat out to build a US strike force to defend the West's oil sources. Now the troops and hardware are beginning to be ready for the nations' speediest military buildup since Vietnam, and the Administration is bargaining hard for facilities to support them. The effort still amounts to a bluff—but the stakes for both sides are rising.....".

In the course of a detailed analysis, the *Newsweek* had pointed out: "..... Critics charge variously that the quick-draw US strategy is a fig leaf designed for political consumption that it fails to meet the real challenges of the Persian Gulf: that it increases the risk of nuclear confrontation and that it doesn't satisfy most of America's allies. Its defenders say only that it is a show of will that might work, and is better than nothing. Certainly America's friends are dubious. Most Europeans think that the policy is unwise, and nervous

allies like Saudi Arabia and Oman, situated at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, have offered only lukewarm co-operation in what they regard as a token and unrealistic US commitment against a more sustained Soviet threat.....”

The article not only dealt with the reactions of the US allies, but also examined its inherent weakness of the Carter strategy: “.....More basic is the question of whether the US rapid-deployment strategy is practical enough to work. With memories of charred helicopters on an Iranian desert fixed in American’s minds, many critics doubt the chances for any bigger, more complex missions—especially given the growing inability of the volunteer Army to cope with modern military technology.....”

All that one can say is that the Carter Administration is throwing away good US money—to be picked up by military contractors. But this kind of political gimmickry adds to tension and little and big wars can erupt at any time.

—Tribune Correspondent



SOVIET PROPOSALS

To End The Arms Race

An abridged version of the memorandum submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the tenth special session of the UN General Assembly on May 26, 1978 devoted to the problems of disarmament.

THE ENTIRE COURSE of world developments has now brought the question of ending the arms race to the centre of International politics. If the arms race is not halted, political detente, achieved as a result of great efforts by many States and peoples, may come to a standstill. If the threat of military confrontation starts to mount again, it will hardly be possible to maintain even the current level of international trust, without which normal relations between States are inconceivable. The arms race, consuming as it does an ever increasing share of the material and intellectual resources of mankind, can prevent any solution to the extremely complicated problems of economic

development. If the arms race continues, it will be difficult to resolve those global and universal problems whose urgency has increased so greatly over the last few decades—the provision of food, the development of radically new sources of energy, the extensive use of the oceans and outer space, the eradication of disease and the preservation of the environment.

The bilateral and multilateral arms limitation agreements concluded in the 1960s and 1970s have undoubtedly had and continue to have a certain restraining influence on the arms race. By closing some channels for the development and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and somewhat narrowing others, those agreements have averted the worst. Yet, because of their limited nature and the fact that not all States—and, what is more, not all the nuclear Powers—have become Parties to them, they have failed to halt the arms race.

At the same time, the pace at which agreements on limiting the arms race are being achieved is slower than that at which the arms race itself is developing. Moreover, in some highly dangerous aspects of the arms race a point may be reached beyond which it will no longer be possible to conclude arm-limitation agreements based on mutual verification. Weapons systems are already being developed and are close to the production stage which do not lend themselves to such verification at all in terms of limiting their quantity and their qualitative characteristics.

Only one choice is possible: it is essential to bring about a decisive breakthrough in the struggle to end the arms race. Time can no longer be wasted—that would be fraught with extremely grave consequences. No State any longer has the right to withhold its contribution to ending the arms race. Ending the arms race is the common task of all States, all Governments and all peoples. Dealing with this task requires a joint effort.....

It is the view of the Soviet Union, as L. I. Brezhnev recently stated, that the time has come to give thought to ending completely any further quantitative and qualitative build up of arms and armed forces of States with a large military potential, thus creating conditions for their subsequent reduction. Spec-

finally, the Soviet Union is calling for discussion of a programme for the implementation of the following measures within a specified limited period: (1) Cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons; (2) Cessation of the production of and prohibition of, all other types of weapons of mass destruction; (3) Cessation of the development of new types of conventional armaments of great destructive capability; (4) Renunciation by the permanent members of the Security Council, and by countries which have military agreements with them of the expansion of their armies and the build up of their conventional armaments.

Of course it will not be easy to reach agreement on such matters. A start should be made, therefore, with the cessation of the production of nuclear weapons. At the same time, the Soviet Union for its part declares in no uncertain terms that it is against the use of nuclear weapons; only extraordinary circumstances, aggression against the Soviet Union or its allies by another nuclear Power, can compel it to resort to this extreme means of self-defence.

1. *Since the main danger is generated by the accelerating nuclear arms race, efforts of States should be focussed on measures to halt the arms race in this area and subsequently to reverse it.* There is no doubt that it would have been much easier to solve this problem at the stage when nuclear weapons had just emerged. That was precisely what the Soviet Union proposed at the time—to ban nuclear weapons once and for all. However, its proposal was not accepted. Now that States are armed with a wide range of nuclear-weapons systems and now that the nuclear factor dominates the military reality of today and is basic to strategic planning, the problem has become immeasurably more difficult.

Nevertheless, it would be a grave error to believe that it has now become altogether impossible to reverse the course of events in the field of nuclear armaments. In the political and social fields, States and peoples have been confronted with no less difficult challenges, but they have proved equal to them.....

2. *One of the most important objectives of ending the arms race is undoubtedly the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons. In*

the last ten years, since the conclusion of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, substantial progress has been made towards the solution of that problem. Nevertheless, not everything necessary has been done and further efforts are required now. Needless to say, nuclear weapons in the hands of States situated in areas of conflict and tension would be particularly dangerous. A nuclear conflict should it flare up in any such region, could trigger an all-out nuclear clash..... Obviously, there is a need to secure the more active participation of a large number of States, including non-clear States, in the consolidation of the non-proliferation regime.....

Progress in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is undoubtedly one of the promising ways to solve the energy problem, and the Soviet Union favours broader international co-operation in this area provided, of course, that it is carried out under conditions which rule out its use to increase possibilities for the development of nuclear weapons. At the same time, looking ahead, it can be said with confidence that nuclear energy, however important, is not the only key for solving the energy problem. Alternative approaches are emerging today which do not lead to greater nuclear risk. They are thermonuclear synthesis, the use of solar and geothermal energy, and a number of other sources of energy all of which may prove to be highly promising. Their development also promises cheaper energy than nuclear energy.

The Soviet Union is prepared to co-operate on a constructive basis with other States in research activities concerning new sources and types of energy. We have recently stated our readiness to take part together with the United States of America, the European countries, Japan and other States, in the "Tokamak" international project—a thermonuclear reactor designed to produce a controlled thermonuclear reaction with a release of energy higher than the energy input.

3. *The strengthening of the regime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is directly linked to another, no less pressing issue, that of the non-stationing of nuclear weapons on the territories of States where there are no such weapons at present.*

It is obvious that the solution of this problem depends to a large degree on those non-nuclear States where there are at present no nuclear weapons. Some of them have already made statements to the effect that they will not allow nuclear weapons on their territories. It would be desirable for other non-nuclear States in a similar situation to adopt the same attitude.

As in the case of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, however, a great deal depends on the nuclear Powers, especially if we take into account the means at their disposal for exerting political influence through allied and other channels. The nuclear Powers could take a major positive step if they assumed a clear and plain obligation not to station nuclear weapons in those countries where there are no such weapons at present. Naturally, such an obligation should be universal in character, that is to say, it should be applicable to any non-nuclear State on whose territory there are no nuclear weapons, regardless of whether any particular nuclear Power is or is not an ally of that State.

The Soviet Union declares its readiness to assume such an obligation and calls upon all the other nuclear Powers to follow suit. Agreement in principle among nuclear Powers in this regard would make it possible for them to hold an exchange of views on the form that such an obligation should take.

4. *The prohibition of the development of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction features prominently among international priorities..... International action is urgently required to rule out, once and for all, the emergence and deployment of neutron weapons. The question of banning such weapons has been discussed in recent months at various inter-State levels, including the top levels, as well as by the world public and the most eminent representatives of the contemporary scientific community. As a result of these discussions, it can be stated with confidence that: (1) Neutron weapons are an especially inhumane means of mass destruction of people; (2) Neutron weapons will inevitably lower the threshold of a nuclear war and consequently will increase the probability of such a war; (3) The introduction of neutron weapons by one group of States will inevitably*

lead to similar action on the part of another group of countries, and this will open up a new channel for the nuclear arms race, just as happened in the 1940s with atomic, and in the 1950s with thermonuclear weapons; (4) The emergence of any one type of neutron weapons could mark but a start of this race the first type will inevitably be followed by other types with even greater destructive capability, designed to attain objectives broader than those currently conceived, including objectives which go beyond the confines of a single continent.

These are the immutable facts that induced certain States, including the Soviet Union, to submit to the Committee on Disarmament a draft international convention on the prohibition of the production, stockpiling, deployment and use of nuclear neutron weapons. In view of the fact that the United States Government has postponed its final decision to begin the production of neutron weapons, the Soviet Union will not begin their production either as long as the United States does the same. However, the Soviet Union remains an advocate of the complete prohibition of neutron weapons. If the interests of the security of the peoples are to be taken into account, consideration of the proposal concerning the prohibition of neutron weapons should be accorded high priority in the work of the Committee on Disarmament..... There is still time to block the advance of the neutron death and not allow it to materialize.

(To Be Concluded)

o o o

HENG SAMRIN

India's Recognition

by Kautiliya

THE DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION granted to Heng Samrin's regime of Kampuchea by India has disappointed the members of the ASEAN, caused mild murmuring amongst the members of the non-aligned movement and would certainly have annoyed the benefactors of the deposed Pol Pot regime.

In Sri Lanka commentators have tried to

apply the test of recognition generally adopted and accepted by international lawyers. It is a matter of consolation that international lawyers have not to date devised any fool-proof method of recognition and the present tests are so flexible that they can be bent the way one wants.

Generally a regime which is effective and has permanent control of the territory under its jurisdiction is recognised. However, this recognition also depends on the ideological camp to which a regime belongs or how it will affect one's own national interest. USA herself had been a typical example of this way of thinking. She had been guilty of such a step when she took diplomatic and other measures against the People's Republic of China. It took almost thirty years for USA to realise that China had a regime that could withstand all sanctions imposed against her; and the recognition also came at a time when USA was badly in need of an ally to suit its global geo-political and military strategy.

SIMILARLY the recognition granted by India should be viewed from the point of view of Asian politics and strategy. If one closely follows the foreign policy pattern of the recent past that India has not moved away from any of her principles. The Kampuchean affair is not an isolated event. Her role in the establishment of Bangladesh, which overwhelmingly opposed at the UN India's readiness to negotiate with Babrak Karmal's regime in Afghanistan are cases in point.

Heng Samrin's government is in effective control of Kampuchea, no doubt with the assistance of Vietnam to safeguard her against foreign infiltrations like Babrak Karmal's regime in Afghanistan. A recognition at this stage would therefore help Heng Samrin government to help her reconstruct the country and take a non-aligned stand. If the Tanzanian troops could well march into Uganda, oust Idi Amin and instal a government, there is no reason why Vietnam should not help Kampuchea, a neighbouring country which would otherwise fall prey into sphere of influence of other powers, which also threaten the territorial integrity of Vietnam.

From a national point of view India has proved herself to be on the correct path. Indira Gandhi's predecessors, the Janatha Government, also would have

recognised the Heng Samrin regime. Indira Gandhi herself had a mandate from the people to recognize Heng Samrin regime.

THE COVETING EYES OF CHINA over Indo-China and other South East Asian countries was clear. The Americans who were thrown out by the front door had re-entered the area through the back door only to annoy India and Russia. The threat is much closer to India than to any other nation in the region. "The world public should know that Chinese reference books on history and geography regard several neighbouring states both in South East Asia and South China basin as part of China". *Vide China A General Survey* published in English in 1979 by Waiwen Chubanshe, lists parts of Vietnam, Burma, India, Laos and Mongolia, among others, as "historically Chinese territory". Such propaganda material cannot easily be ignored by India.

ASEAN has now graduated from being an economic union into a fully fledged political and economic arm of the West, China and Japan. It had a modest beginning and had been quietly looking after its own affairs. But the Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister, Sinnathamby Rajaratnam, is not a soft spoken diplomat to hide his light when the wind blows—and India, a leading power in Asia and South Asian region with her own borders being watched by enemies is not going to take lessons in foreign affairs from Rajaratnam.

His own Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew commented that: "to maintain the Heng Samrin regime would be a loss to the Soviet Union, but to return to the regime of the Pol Pot would not benefit the Chinese either". Obviously between these two extremes or super powers, the best solution would be for the non-aligned countries to recognize Kampuchea and help her to stand on her own without embroiling herself in a super power struggle and ward off threats to other parts of the continent. ASEAN themselves are playing into the hands of US-led US-Chinese-Japanese global alliance.

As for non-aligned lews on recent events one is unable to say with any confidence whether it has any serious policy at the moment; there is a lull and a dullness in the movement. It is in such a parlous state that a new blood transfusion is an absolute necessity to articulate and make it active. India may be said to have broken the ice and very soon others may follow.

AFRICA

Mondale's Visit

Washington, July 17,

Vice President Mondale has arrived in the Senegalese capital of Dakar, his first stop on a seven-day visit to Western Africa. The American Vice President's trip to Senegal, Niger, Nigeria and the Island nation of Cape Verde is seen as the most important American diplomatic mission to Africa since President Carter visited that continent three years ago. Its purpose is to re-emphasize America's interest in Africa's well-being, the bolstering of Human Rights, Economic development and the concept of Non-alignment. The visit emphasizes the American belief in the inherent right of the people of Africa to resolve problems confronting them in accordance with their own will—without outside interference. Testifying before a Congressional sub-committee earlier in the year, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Richard M. Moose said: "We are convinced that in the long run our national interest and the interests of African States are best served by our continued contributions to the growth of strong, economically viable nations in Africa."

Vice President Mondale is looking forward to varied discussions in the four African countries—all of which are members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)—a grouping of sixteen African states interested in forming a full-fledged common market on the European model. A focal point of the mission will be economic talks with Nigerian leaders in Lagos—the first such meeting since Nigeria returned to civilian rule several months ago. Nigeria is America's second largest source of crude oil, a reliable trading partner and a large market of growing importance.

Talks in the other countries of the Vice President's schedule also reflect US concern for the development of mutually beneficial ties with these members of ECOMAS. The need for the sort of economic co-operation represented by the organization is vital in any area of small and weak national markets, and the United States is interested in promoting such co-operative ventures. Senegal, Niger and Cape Verde participate in a major US

assistance effort launched to help the chronically drought-ridden Sahel region. Niger, Africa's tenth largest country, with a disproportionately small population, is the heart of the Sahel. Former French colonies, Niger and Senegal, maintain close trade relations with France.

Vice President Mondale's visit occurs against the background of an improving climate between US and African nations, as well as certain trends toward pragmatism among African countries, aimed at enhancing their economic well-being. It also recognizes forward movement in the field of Human Rights. Several countries in the area have recently thrown off brutally oppressive regimes, while others have abandoned military for democratically elected leadership.

VOA/USICA.

US—SOVIET

Euromissiles

by William W. Wade

Washington, July 17,

Preparations for US-Soviet talks on medium-range nuclear weapons based in Europe are under way. There have already been ten months of East-West controversy about whether such talks should take place—and under what conditions. And now the Soviet newspaper Pravda indicates that there will be more controversy about what weapons should be included and how negotiations should begin. But there does appear to be agreement that talks about Europe-based nuclear weapons have become increasingly necessary and desirable as one of the next steps in arms control. The agreement to talk unfolded during German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's recent meeting with Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow and was confirmed by Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in conversation with US Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Washington.

Two sets of new weapons are at issue. First and foremost are the Soviet SS-20 missiles which have been steadily deployed over the past three years. These, NATO experts say, threaten to change the European strategic

balance because of their multiple warheads. Their range, accuracy and mobility characteristics make them difficult to defend against. Moscow's new backfire bombers are also a factor in the equation. NATO's weapons include two types that will not be deployed until 1983. One is an improved longer range ballistic missile. The other is the versatile cruise missile—'cw-flying, jet-propelled, computer-guided projectile. Together these weapons are designed to counter the latest Soviet arms already on the firing line.

Pravda July 15 expressed continued opposition to NATO's plans for putting nearly 600 of these new missiles in place, beginning three years hence. According to *Pravda*, what Moscow wants to talk about most are the US planes equipped to carry nuclear weapons now based on Western Europe, other American planes abroad aircraft carriers and US missile-carrying submarines. Deputy Secretary, Christopher, conferring with NATO allies in Bonn and Brussels, has said the United States wants to talk first and foremost about land-based long-range missiles—that is, the Soviet SS-20's and comparable NATO weapons. Christopher says that the issue of American planes, carriers and submarines—what Moscow calls forward-based system—may turn out to be one of the most perplexing in all of arms control history. And the Deputy Secretary of State says the negotiation itself will be immensely complicated, so that preparations for the first meeting must be careful, thorough and intense. There is, then agreement to talk—but not necessarily what to talk about first. And there is every indication of long, hard bargaining ahead.

—VOA/USICA.

X X X X

YUGOSLAVIA

A Crisis Of Socialism?

Belgrade, July 15.

"There is no question of a crisis of socialism. On the contrary, the world has stepped deeply into socialism," said member of the Presidency of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Dr. Aleksander Grilokov in an interview to the Editor of the Belgrade weekly *Nin*. Dr. Grilickov stressed

however that socialism, to, is not a society free from conflicts, but a society of contradictions, and even antagonisms. And it cannot resolve its contradictions directly and easily. Dr. Grilickov added that problems exist in socialism and that they are now discussed more outspokenly and loudly. These problems best indicate the complexity of the construction of socialism.

Asked for his views on the widespread impression about the growth of rightist governments and conservative alliances, Grilickov said that the progressive forces are on a constant rise. Blows from the right are part of the process, but the balance is in favour of peace, progress and social transformation. Speaking of the conditions for revolutionary transformation in our time, Dr. Grilickov stressed that there is no uniform revolutionary strategy, because there are no uniform conditions for revolutionary structural change in societies on individual continents and in some regions and countries. "Not only that these conditions differ, but so do also the subjective forces fighting for social structural transformations, for socialism".

Replying to a question whether there is a monolithic system of socialism dominated by one "prevalent model", Dr. Grilickov underlined that the real image of socialism, which is rightly called a world process, is in complete contrast to the concept of a "unique", "predestinant" or, for that matter any other model. With the expansion of this process, whether through the experience of its direct construction or in the theoretical and programmatic principles of the forces carrying it and striving for it, its contents are becoming increasingly diverse and rich.

Aleksander Grilickov rejected some allegations that Euro-communism is in crisis. "Euro-communism is not in crisis as the reasons for its emergence have not ceased. It can even be said that they have become even more pronounced" Grilickov said, stressing that at the root of Euro-communism are primarily the national conditions under which these parties work. In his view, a series of internal and international circumstances hinder and make their activity more complex. Despite this, he said these parties have over the past few years achieved significant success and

have confirmed themselves on the platform of Eurocommunism as the national forces which have to be taken into account. —Tanjug



WITHOUT COMMENT

Alibaba And His Forty Aides

(By Lloyd R. Devarajah)

A few weeks ago, a businessman, well-known in smuggling circles as well as in the Port of Colombo and the Colombo Airport, Kurayake, held a housewarming party at his luxury house in a Colombo suburb. One night was set aside by this business tycoon, for his numerous "contacts" and others in the Sri Lanka Customs. Why not, when almost everything but the building and furniture, were of foreign origin or manufacture. The bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and electrical fittings were all obtained from abroad. This included the wall-to-wall carpeting and the furnishings.

About 50 of the invitations sent out were to Customs officers including Sri Lanka Administrative Servicemen, Staff Officers, Assistant Collectors, Customs Appraisers, Preventive Officers, Airport and Baggage Office personnel.

Eight of the invitees either did not or refused to attend the function. The 40-odd Customs personnel who accepted the invitation, attended the house-warming party and had a rollicking time. When the party broke up close to midnight, most of the Customs men were really in "high spirits". A neighbour commented that, "It was like Alibaba and his forty smugglers aides" when he saw the Customs personnel trooping out of the luxury villa after the feast.

—Sunday Times, July 13, 1980

X X X

S. Korea Sacks 4,760 Corrupt Officials

Seoul, July 16.

The South Korean Government said yesterday it had sacked 4,760 public officials for inefficiency and corruption. The largest purge since the establishment of the government in 1948. The sackings are in addition to that of 232 senior officials including a Cabinet Minister and six vice ministers dismissed last week on similar grounds. Government Administration Minister Kim Young-Hyu told a press conference. Commerce Minister Chung Chea-Suk was replaced by Bank of Korea Governor Shin-Byong-J-Hyun earlier this month. Mr. Kim said the interior ministry which controls the police force lost the largest number of officials in the latest purification drive when nearly 3,000 including more than 1,300 police officers were sacked. Mr. Kim said the drive was aimed at eradicating corruption and other irregularities among government officials.

Last week's announcement, by the special committee for National Security whose members include President Chul Kyu-Han, army strongman, general Chun Dog Hwan and several senior Cabinet Ministers said the measures were necessary to safeguard the state, protect the right to survival of the people and ensure social stability. The President of the majority Democratic Republican Party (DRP, Kim Jong-Pil, and several other DRP officials resigned from parliament earlier this year after being investigated by the martial law authorities on suspicion of corruptly amassing large fortunes. They were later exempted from prosecution on condition that they resigned from all public posts and donated their illegal wealth to the state to be used for welfare programmes for the poor. (Reuter)

—Ceylon Daily News, July 17.



Confidentially

Gas Turbines— Why Delayed?—2

THAT CONTINUING the queries we raised regarding the delays in the matter of the installation of the gas turbines for a new thermal plant, we had pointed out that there was an unusually (and unnecessary—considering the urgency of the situation) long delay between the time of the Cabinet decision and the final closing of the tender? That after that there were further delays because of the efforts (successful, unfortunately) to reject the lowest tender and award it to the highest? That in the *Tribune* of December 29, 1979, this column had stated: "IS IT NOT TRUE that there is a great deal of gossip in political and commercial circles about many matters of importance? That this week we will deal with one that concerns the tender for the new Gas Turbine Unit plants? That stories assert that the lowest tenderer is being overlooked—although its local agent has big political, banking and commercial pull? That the gossip is that the Tender will go to the highest Tenderer—more apparently for political rather than other considerations? That no decisions have yet been made, but tenders have become such a sensitive sector that any little thing sparks off fierce gossip that verge on a war of nerves? That the government consultants Messrs Preece Cadrew & Rider of London have been Sri Lanka's consultants for the hydro-electric projects from the twenties or thirties when the Norton Bridge and Laxapana schemes were mooted? That there has been no word of criticism against the consultants, but it is alleged that certain interested parties (local) had made sustained efforts to vary Tender Board decisions? That for instance, on the eve of the issue of Tender forms a lobby had tried to confine the issue of tenders to suit a particular group of manufacturers? That the device was to pressurise the government to insist on the supply of "3 units" and not "2 or 3 units", as was decided upon, to suit the requirements? That immediately prior to the issue of Tender

Documents on the 17th June 1979, an attempt (which is on record with the Government) was made to fix the number of units at 3 in spite of the decision of the Tender Board and the Consultants? That in fact the Tender Document which had been already prepared called for "2 or 3 units" for a requirement between 60MW to 75MW? That the issue of this Tender document was temporarily withheld? That it was only the intervention of a Minister which prevented this change in it at that time? That this same subversion of tender procedure is also said to be at the bottom of an attempt to influence the Cabinet to set aside the Tender recommendations which was to give the award to the lowest acceptable Tenderer, who had offered 2 units with the best cost-benefit ratio and in compliance with the Specifications and Conditions? That it is said, that if this should happen it would be unfair by the lowest tenderer? That tenderers for such multi-million projects have to incur heavy expenditure even to prepare the Tender?"

That the "catch" in the insistence on the 3 units was to cut out the firms that could produce the power required with two units? That the local Tender Board and the foreign consultants had asked for "2 or 3 units to make it possible for more manufacturers to participate in the Tender? That it is mystery how the recommendations of the local Tender Board (and endorsed by the foreign Consultants) that the Tender should be awarded to Flat came to be rejected by the Cabinet and the highest bidder viz., John Brown's given the award? That an even bigger mystery is how and why this Tenderer has been given two or three extensions of time to fulfil his contract? That originally even on the latest award the installation had to be done by April 1980? That time was thereafter given until June 1980 and then again until October 1980? That there is no guarantee that even one of the three turbines would be commissioned by October? That if the tender had been dealt with expeditiously from the start, the gas turbines should have been commissioned by mid 1979 or at the latest before the end of 1979? That if this had happened, the power crisis would not have been as severe as the one we are experiencing?



The original garlic pearls. An Ayurvedic preparation.

Each **LASONA** capsule contains extract of pure garlic suspended in Oleum Arachis q.s. to 250 mg. As **LASONA** dissolves in the stomach it is TASTELESS AND ODOURLESS. Take one **LASONA** capsule three times a day with meals or as prescribed by your physician.

LASONA is recommended as a completely natural treatment for lack of energy, reduced muscular capacity. It is especially useful in reducing cholesterol, relieving gas and digestive disorders. **LASONA** is a completely safe and natural way to better health.

LASONA improves the digestion; relieves abdominal flatulences; clear the respiratory tract by its powerful sputum liquifying and expectorative action; lowers lipaemia and cholesterol in the blood, and thereby strengthens the heart a potent nervine tonic, helps to correct nervous rundown conditions and lethargy and gives an overall sense of well being.

Retail Price Rs. 65/- per packet of 180 Capsules.

Available at:

Union Chemists,
Union Place,
Colombo 2.

Globe Pharmacy,
Union Place,
Colombo 2.

Kandy Medicals
D. S. Samanayake Vidiya,
Kandy.

Sole Importers:

MUKARAMS ORGANISATION LTD.,
BADUWATTE,
EHELIYAGODA.

TRADE INQUIRIES INVITED

Out Shortly

HAVANA TO KABUL

A Sri Lanka Non-aligned View

By

S. P. AMARASINGAM

Pre-Publication Price: Rs. 10/- a copy

For Orders Received Before August, 10, 1980.

Post Publication Price: Rs. 12/-50 a copy.

Tribune Publications,

43, DAWSON STREET, COLOMBO 2.

TELEPHONE: 33172