

The SEARCHLIGHT

30th YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT

VOL 36 NO. 14

COLOMBO

31st August 1957

Solving the Language Problem

by
Dr. G. C. MENDIS

Anyone who visits Jaffna today or even Batticaloa, cannot help noticing immediately the intensity of feeling over the Language Question.

The Tamil look upon the Sinhala Only Bill as an Act of injustice inflicted upon them by the Sinhalese to humiliate them. They point out that it placed the Tamils definitely at a disadvantage. It hit them economically, reduced the number of future appoint-

ments in the Public Service and their chances of promotion. It placed legally the Tamil language for the first time in a status lower than Sinhalese and limited the influence of Tamil culture. It was forced on the Tamils precipitately in an unfair and undemocratic manner. It was passed by a majority vote without adequate consideration or the acquiescence of the Tamil people.

Some of the Tamils who openly showed their opposition to the Bill were treated with violence and indignities. Further the inaction of the Government for over an year to make Tamil an official language and give it national status or even a guarantee by law for the reasonable use of it as the Sinhalese promised, has led to a feeling of insecurity and despair. As a result the Tamils looking for a panacea to overcome the ills from which they suffered are clinging to Federalism in their present emotional state as the only way, at least within two

(Continued on page 14)

A Boon to the Residents of Kandy PIONEER STORES

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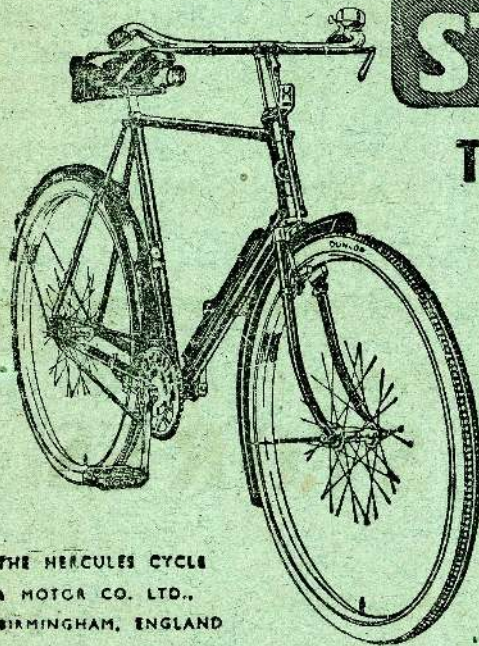
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ESTABLISHED 1921)

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Vol 36 No. 14

COLOMBO

AUGUST 31st 1957

MUSINGS

BY
 T. W. HOCKLY

SONG FOR DUDLEY

Parody of old Omar: "I often wonder what the Tapperers buy. That's half so precious As the stuff they sell." I may have quoted these lines previously but there is no harm in repeating them. Is Dudley going to stage a 'come back'? If he does, I make bold to say, it will never be under the banner of the U.N.P. Dudley is a forlorn hope, he will never be a dynast. The days of dynasts are over. They are as dead as the Dodo.

THE PRICE OF PETROL

THE Price of Petrol has been enhanced by 10 cents a gallon. Now what was the necessity for raising the price of Petrol to 10 cents a gallon? In the U.K. I believe, the present price of petrol per gallon is 4/4 per gallon or Rs. 2-90. This after paying Canal Dues which are not light and freight &c. The fact is our legislators of whatever persuasion when they are short of money fly at once to increasing the Income Tax and or the price of Petrol. The present Government is no exception to this. However we ought to be thankful that the increase is only 10 cents and not higher. I suppose as time goes on the Price of Petrol will become so prohibitive in Ceylon that many will have to use bullock hackeries instead of motor cars. We must be prepared to face anything in the future.

THE U. N. P.

UNDERSTAND the U.N.P. has recently held a rally at Dambulla. In my opinion the U.N.P. will never come to power again, at least not in this generation. They had a long innings and the people were becoming a little tired of them and wanted a change. Whether Banda and the M. E. P. will serve after four years remains to be seen. I doubt it myself. Perhaps we may yet see a Communist Party in power. Anything is likely to happen as things are at present.

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REST HOUSES

WAS glad to learn that the present Government intend to see the reform and reconditioning of many of our Rest Houses. This is a reform that is badly needed if Ceylon desires to be attractive for Tourists. One thing the Government must see to and that is that Rest Houses are not be used to house and accommodate Government Servants and also serve even as offices for them temporary. Most Rest Houses are in a dilapidated condition, dirty and insanitary.

There are of course some exceptions. The best Rest House in the island is undoubtedly the new Rest House, Negombo, which is more in the way of a well managed hotel than a Rest House. My old friend Rodrigo is the Manager of the Rest House and he sees personally to the cleanliness, food, service, accommodation and comfort of his guests. This is only as it should be in all Rest Houses. Whilst the new Rest House (Negombo) leaves nothing to be desired there are Rest Houses which call for drastic reform and it is such that the Government will have to see to and with the least delay if good Rest Houses are

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The Manager

called for, and they really are a necessity not only for Tourists but for all travellers. Mr. Rodrigo has a book which he treasures exceedingly. In it are written the praises and eulogies of Princess, Peers, Presidents and Prime Ministers. All these guests bear evidence to the excellence of their reception, the food, the service, the accommodation and the comfort they have experienced. Of course, Rodrigo is

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Lists for the current sweep are now with the members of the Galle Gymkhana Club.

Galle, 28th August, 1957

SECRETARY,
GALLE GYMKHANA CLUB.

an exceptional man but there is no reason to think others cannot be found who can emulate him.

DAMBULLA AGAIN

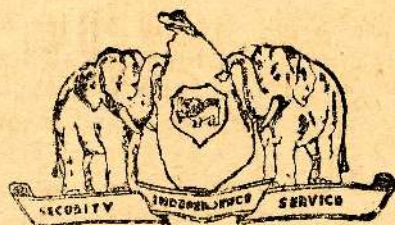
PROPOS the U.N.P. meeting or rally that was held very recently at Dambulla I have since heard the rally was not a very great success as "certain lewd fellows of the baser sort" who attended the meeting started disturbing the speakers. I suppose that this sort of thing is to be expected nowadays from members of our mobocracy.

PAPER CURRENCY

SEE there is a new issue of Currency Notes. The Queen's Head is omitted in these. "Coming events cast their shadows before." Ceylon would not be the first country to resort to the Printing Press in an effort to solve her monetary problems, usually with disastrous results.—Absit omen. Let us hope history will not repeat itself on this occasion.

HERE AFTER

wonder what life in this country will be like when everyone and everything is reduced to one dead level on the least common factor. Whenever the small-holder with an acre or so of land will not have any, life



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will be very uninteresting except for Comisars "et hoc genus omne."

I fervently hope and pray I shall not be alive to see it. It may stand for Progress among our Intellectuals but not for Happiness of the people.

ROCK AN' ROLL

I am with Mr. Methananda in his objection to "Rock and Roll" as sexually dangerous. I am no prude or narrow-minded but I certainly think, it is not right to encourage our Ceylonese youth in such dances. The U.S.A. mentality may be well enough for the U.S.A. but it is not suited to the mentality prevalent in the east where the moral view point is so different. Such dances should be discouraged as much as possible. To put it bluntly we do not wish to see our Ceylonese youth converted into "Hoodlums and whores" ere yet their youth has scarce begun." Let the U.S.A. indulge in whatever prurient dances they choose but these should receive no encouragement here nor emulation.

THE RETIRING AGE

WINSOME WIMALA is quite right in wishing to fix the Retiring Age at 55. For as long ago as I can remember this suggestion was mooted. The Retiring Age in India has been 55 and the voluntary retiring age has been fifty. The climate of India differs very little to that of Ceylon. So why not equalise the retiring age in both countries? Why therefore block promotion by allowing older men to hang on to the last? Such men can enjoy their 'otium cum dignitate' whilst they are still capable of enjoying life. Then too it gives a chance to the younger men following in their wake. It might perhaps be argued that the older men have the knowledge and experience, but after all there is nothing like an infusion of fresh blood with new ideas and methods. "There are as good fish in the sea as have come out of it." So more power to you Wimala.

THE SEARCHLIGHT

(Established 1921)

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

31st AUGUST 1957

PROHIBITION

READERS of THE SEARCHLIGHT will remember that we were opposed to Prohibition. We were always primarily concerned with the disposition of the public to the thunderings of the prohibitionists. They were never in a mood to brook the deafening utterances of the prohibitionists. What we said then is now repeated by the Prohibition Commission.

The Commission makes the following estimate of losses the State will incur as a result of prohibition:—

Loss from primary revenue:

Rs. 65 to Rs. 70 million.

Losses from secondary revenue:

(a) Income and profit tax: Rs. 3.5 million; (b) Indirect taxes: Rs. 1.5 million—Rs. 5 million.

Gain from indirect taxes (minus Rs. 5 million).

Total annual loss: Rs. 65 to Rs. 70 million.

We had right along estimated a loss of Rs. 80 millions. We said this several times. The Commission's estimate is 10 millions less. We will let that pass. The loss is nevertheless a colossal one.

Revenue losses will be aggravated by increase on expenditure necessitated by the enforcement of the prohibition law.

We also bestowed our considerations on the financial implications of the enforcement of prohibition and to what devastating extent prohibition will bit some of our industries and kindred occupations which enabled the poorer class of people to eke out an existence. The Commission however paints this dismal picture of diminished revenue resulting from prohibition

"We believe that the consequences will be the other way about. As in India where despite a greater receptivity to Prohibition, large increases in detection and enforcement machinery were necessitated. Special courts had to be set up to deal with Prohibition offences, and jails became overcrowded with Prohibition offenders."

Our antagonism to enforced prohibition was based on a cardinal principle

cracy: the freedom of the individual to decide whether he should drink alcoholic drinks or not. The iron muzzle of the dictator is one that cannot be assured permanency. Any act of the democrat which does not provide freedom of choice is, surely, stark dictatorship and will not be brooked by democratic citizens.

If we have the courage to face realities we will begin prohibition among the camp followers of the prohibitionists. The spectacle of the wives of such camp followers drinking wines and whiskies, neat and diluted is a reality at which the apostles of prohibition should blush.

That prohibition will inundate the Employment Exchange is definitely assured us by the Commission. Says its Report:—

"Considering the unemployment that already exists in the Island, the additional unemployment and underemployment of about 35,000 persons which will result from the introduction of prohibition will add substantially to the Government's problems."

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The Soulbury Constitution and the P. S. C.

Specially
Contributed to
THE SEARCHLIGHT

By C. M. Edwin Silva
President of the Ex-Government
Servants Association

THE Finance Minister's statement in the House of Representatives on the 31.7.57 that the Public Service Commission, as at present constituted, was a "law unto itself" and that neither he nor the government had any control over its rules and regulations is a startling disclosure, especially after 10 years of parliamentary government. For such a pathetic state of affairs and the failure to have put matters to rights the responsibility must be shouldered by the previous administration whose inertia and incompetence to have asserted its right plunged this country into chaos and confusion until it was completely routed at the last General Election.

That the Minister of Finance is the competent authority over the Public Services is manifest from the recommendation made in paragraph 326 of the Soulbury Report which is as follows:

"The functions of the Financial Secretary should be transferred to a Minister of Finance who, subject to the functions allotted to the Public Service Commission, should also be responsible for the Public Services, a function at present shared by the Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary.

Under the Order-in-Council of 1931 the so called Chief Secretary and Financial Secretary passed off as two of the Three Officers of State or as two of the three appointed Ministers and as such were vested with supreme power over the administration of the Public Services including appointments, transfers and dismissals. If that was so, it is incredible to believe the statement that the elected Minister of Finance, who superseded the Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary of a colonial era, has no control over the rules and regulations framed by the Public Service Commission. Now that the Minister of Finance has vouched for the statement in Parliament, action to remedy this deplorable state of affairs cannot be delayed any longer in the interests of good government of this country.

It is a case of history repeating itself where again the brass hats of the Ceylon Civil Service in their great zeal for power had encroached on the rights of the elected representatives as was done when the framing of the Order in Council of 1931 came to be handled by them.

Let us get down to brass tacks and find out who was responsible in framing the Public Service Commission Rules for the first time after the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council, 1946 came into being Article 60-(1) of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order in Council, 1946 in respect of appointments in the Public Service reads thus:-

60-(1) The appointment, transfer, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is hereby vested in the Governor acting on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission. Provided that appointments and

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transfers to the office of Attorney General shall be made by the Governor or acting in his discretion.

(2) In subsection (1) of this action the expression "transfer" means a transfer involving an increase of salary.

Article 61—(1) reads as follows:

The Governor acting on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission may make regulations for all or any of the following matters.

- (a) the exercise by the Commission of any of their functions.
- (b) the delegation to the Commission, or to any public officer acting with or without the recommendation of the Commission, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations of any of the powers vested in the Governor by subsection (1) of Section 60 of the Order.

(2) In the exercise of his powers under subsection (1) of this section the Governor shall not delegate to any public officer the power to appoint to any public office which carries an initial salary of more than Rs 3200/-

It is necessary in this connection to mention here the personnel of the first Public Service Commission under the Soulbury Constitution of 1946 which came to function as from 1947

Mr. C. N. Paget, V.D., Bar-at-law, Chairman

Sir Ratnajothi Saravanamuttu

Dr. A. M. de Silva, C.B.E., F.R.C.S.

Mr. R. H. Wickremasinha, C.C.S.

(Secretary to the Commission)

Mr. R. H. Wickremasinha, C.C.S., prior to being appointed as Secretary to the Public Service Commission, functioned as Secretary to the Adviser to Government on changes in Administration and procedure regarding the new Constitution and played a great part in the task of framing Public Service Rules and Administrative Regulations published in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure under the guidance of Mr. C. H. Collins, C.C.S. who was the Adviser to Government on changes in Administration etc. Mr. Collins, prior to this, was a member of the P.S.C. in the Donoughmore era.

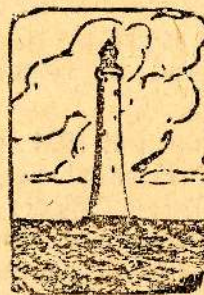
The Public Service Commission under the Chairmanship of Mr. Paget functioned from 1947-1950 with the exception of Sir Ratnajothi

who ceased to be a member in 1949. It was during this period that most of the Administrative Regulations were framed; and what is more some drastic amendments to Articles 60 and 61 of the Soulbury Constitution of 1946 were effected as hereinafter shown.

By the Ceylon Constitution (amendment) Order-in-Council, 1947 subsection (2) of article 61 of the Principal Order (Soulbury Constitution), was deleted, and by the Ceylon Independence Order-in-Council 1947, published in a Gazette Extra ordinary on 17. 1. 48 the remaining portion of article 61 of the Principal Order was revoked and the following new section was substituted therefore.

"The Public Service Commission may by Order published in the Government Gazette, delegate to any public officer, subject to such conditions as may be specified in the Order, any of the powers vested in the Commission by subsection (1) of section 60. Any person dissatisfied with any decision made by any public officer under any power delegated as aforesaid may appeal therefrom to the Commission and the decision of the Commission on such appeal shall be final."

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to lodge an appeal to the present P.S.C. But the rule making power, under article 61 of the Principal Order, which was conferred on the Governor no longer exists as it was revoked by the Ceylon Independence Order-in-Council 1947, and the new section substituted in place of the original section 61 does not speak or refer to any rule making power vested on anyone, but refers only to the delegation by the Public Service Commission to any public officer any of the powers vested in the Commission by subsection [1] of section 60.

In this connection it is also relevant to refer to the origin of the powers to make administrative regulations which are now published in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure. By Gazette Extraordinary No. 9769 of 22.9.47 the following proclamation was published under the hand of Mr. C.H. Collins, Acting Chief Secretary,

Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council 1946.

In pursuance of the powers vested in the Governor by 87 of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order in Council 1946, the Administrative Regulations of the Government of Ceylon are by this regulation modified, added and adapted with effect from the date of the 1st meeting of the House of Representatives to read as set out in this schedule.

Section 87 of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council 1946 read thus:

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87-(1) The Governor may, at any time before the first meeting of the House of Representatives under this Order, make such regulations as appear to him to be necessary or expedient, in consequence of the provisions of this Order, for modifying, adding to or adapting the provisions of any general order, financial regulation, public service regulation or other administrative regulation or order, or otherwise for bringing the provisions of any such administrative regulation or order into accord with the provisions of this Order or for giving effect there to.

(2) Every regulation made under subsection (1) of this section shall have effect until it is amended, revoked or replaced by the appropriate Minister or authority under this Order.

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It is interesting to note that Section 87 of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council 1946 was revoked by the Ceylon Independence Order-in-Council 1947. So, it would be seen, that the rule making powers which were conferred on the Public Service Commission and the Treasury under sections 61 and 87 respectively of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council 1946 was repealed by the Ceylon Independence Order-in-Council 1947. Nevertheless the Treasury continues to keep on "manufacturing" administrative regulations to the detriment of the members of the Public Service.

The third edition of the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure has now 79 correction slip including correction slip No: 14 of 15-3-49 under the hand of Mr. C. E. Jones, the then Secretary to the Treasury.

This is indeed a very serious matter and calls for serious notice by Government. Under the U.N.P regime it was possible for the Treasury to have carried on this game of bluff and thereby arrogate to itself powers which it was not legally entitled to exercise. That being the position, it is to be hoped that the Peoples' Government will assert its rights and take disciplinary action against those officials who were responsible for framing regulations under the obsolete sections of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council 1946. In fact it is necessary to emphasise, at the risk of reiteration, that all administrative regulations embodied in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure are not worth the paper on which they are printed and therefore are not enforceable on anyone—

It is now clear that all rule making powers for the disciplinary control of Public Officers have automatically devolved on the Hon. the Minister of Finance who is answerable to the people for the efficient administration of the Public Services.

Once such rules are framed by the Hon. the Minister of Finance it is for the Public Service Commission and the Treasury to see that they enforce those regulations rigorously for the smooth working of the administrative machinery of the Government. But to permit the P.S.C. and the Treasury to make rules without the prior sanction and approval of the Minister of Finance is a negation of democracy.

As was pointed out in "The Searchlight" earlier, a duly constituted Public Service Commission had not functioned in the Donoughmore regime with the result it deprived those



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Government Servants against whom disciplinary action was taken an opportunity to have their grievances redressed.

That being the position it is a gross abuse of power and an attempt to cover up a series of irregularities committed by the so called Public Service Commission, which functioned during the Donoughmore regime, if rule 23 of the present Public Service Commission and the corresponding regulations of the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure referred to above are allowed to operate against those who have a right to appeal to Government to have their grievances redressed.

It is therefore to be hoped the Hon. the Minister of Finance, who is the ultimate authority responsible for the Public Services, will give a ruling on this matter at an early date.

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The Irascible, Irsome, Petulent, Piquant Mr. D. N. W. de Silva

The Necessity to expel him from the
U. N. P.

BY J. E. REZEL

It is a legitimate expectation of the public and the UNP itself, that Dudley should "reform" the Party. This is his undertaking and he must accomplish it. The job is, no doubt, a big one, but he is committed to do it. A vigilant public will be shadowing Dudley. Dudley is known for his successes, his errors, his weaknesses and his strong points. It is further known that he has handled inconsistencies with the levity of a magician, but being a politician he was criticised. If he were a magician he would have been lustily applauded. He will appreciate the difference.

Under the disciplinary rod of Dudley, the first governing Party of Ceylon, the UNITED NATIONAL PARTY, a reformed UNP can launch a claim for rehabilitation. Where the reformation will begin and where it will end, is not for me to point out. The cob webs must be visible to the piercing eye of the reformer. But I claim a legitimate share in the public expressions for reforms of the UNP.

Institutions that are labelled DEMOCRATIC must be flogged publicly. That is a democratic form of reformatory punishment. Democratic political institutions should not conceal their faults from the public like wicked women concealing adultery from their unsuspecting husbands.

In this instalment, I confine my criticism to those members of the UNP who have got into the bad habit of endorsing Party decisions at its meetings but publicly criticising them. I extract the contravention of this vital code of conduct by a Party member, Mr. D. N. W. de Silva the MMC for Havelock Town. People in the four corners of the island, and those in the centre, know that he had subscribed his approval, at a Party meeting, to the removal of Dr. N. M. Perera from the Mayoral Chair. But in the posh chambers of the Council, Mr. de Silva behaved like a repentant sinner who was horrified with glimpses of his Satanic Majesty's flaming kingdom. The expressions of his contrite heart portrayed him as a sort of sacrificial lamb on the altar of

Party Politics. Of such fickle stuff are some masculine hearts made of! Dr. N. M. has gone, but memories of Mr. D. N. W. de Silva's dual role is as fresh as an apple in a frig.

And, now, the irascible Mr. de Silva has added a nasty paragraph to the chapter of his political career in the United National Party. For sheer irresponsibility, insolence and incorrigibility, Mr. de Silva's recent pronouncements are an insolent challenge to the UNP to brook them or expel him. Here's what Mr. de Silva says. I reproduce from the SUNDAY TIMES, dated 1st September, 1957:-

'The agreement was unholy and immoral'

He is, of course, alluding to the agreement to rotate the Mayoral Chair for three years, among three members of the UNP. Mr. de Silva, at the Party meeting that decided on the rotation, gave his consent to the agreement, but, after the lapse of over one year, the same Mr. de Silva, through the medium of the Press, stigmatises the agreement as "unholy and immoral"

We are getting used to Mr. de Silva's belated remorse of conscience and penitential confessions which, however, do not touch the sympathetic chords of our hearts as the wring

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of his penitential voice appears to lack the anguish of a weeping heart. He seems to be too fond of exhuming the dead and his post mortems do not impress me as being those of an experienced J. M. O. He is well advised to stick to auctioneering and not to loiter in the graveyard of departed events for which he had subscribed his approval.

It is when he steps into the morgue that irascibility, irksomeness, petulance and piquancy ooze from his pores.

Pray, listen to him :-

"Several members supported my view" (to consider the claims of a Muslim for the majority) "but we were not able to counter the manoeuvres of many people and some of us became unwilling partners to an unholy, immoral agreement".

Arrogance at Himalayan heights! A challenge to the UNP High command to brook it or expel him. The reformer's job does not appear to be a difficult one.

And now for the quaint logic of the Auctioneer M. M. C.

"My own view" (there is pomposity in the choice of the first person) "is now that one Party to the agreement is dead, the agreement is invalid; at least it must be so as the next year is concerned, and the present Mayor should continue".

Pontifical finality is conveyed in the word "should". If the death of Mr. Hamid annuls the "unholy and immoral agreement" which involves two others, should not the annulment of this agreement be operative to the first party to the agreement? By what elasticity of the laws governing human reasoning could it be urged that annulment of the agreement is operative to the 2nd and 3rd parties and not to the first party? This is a perversion of the canons of reasoning, a perversion which carries with it the stigma of communal pride and jealousy.

Please, re-read the conclusion of his combative "statement" to a Sunday Paper :-

"My view is that he" (the present Mayor) "has no obligation to give up office at the end of this year or even next. The same should apply, I should say, to the office of Deputy Mayor. Mr. Hamid is dead and the whole agreement should be scrapped."

Let me fry him in his own lard. If the WHOLE "unholy and immoral" agreement is

As pure as . . .

BEER

Many readers will be pulled up short by that unexpected comparison: as pure as . . . beer. Yet it is the simple fact that there is no article of food or drink produced with the same care and in the same purity as the beer of to-day.

How purity is ensured

By analysing samples before purchase the brewers see to it that both the barley, from which the malt is made, and the hops, are of the choicest quality; and that any brewing sugar used is sugar in its most health-giving form. The whole process of brewing is under the close supervision of the Excise authorities. At frequent intervals tests are taken by the brewer of the beer in the making, and when the brew is completed an exhaustive test of the final beer is applied. Samples of the beer as sold are taken continually by the inspectors of the local authority.

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

Downright Wholesome

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

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

BEER

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scrapped, the first effect of the scrapping is that the present Mayor gets effaced as his election to the mayoralty for the first year was dependent on the agreement of his successors for the next two years.

Let me analyse the disturbed mind of Mr. de Silva a little further. With the boldness of the blind he declares that he WANTS, "in spite of his obvious desire for the glamour of office robes and chain and handshakes and photographs" the present Mayor to continue "not because he is best qualified to be Mayor but because he had not done too badly". One could infer from this frank statement that the "best qualified" are available or should be requisitioned for the mayoralty, and one could also definitely say that there have been 'bad' patches in the doings of the present Mayor. As a decoction, it appears to be as good as anything that could be dispensed by Ayurveda.

Mr. Marikar's Trip to Japan

Mr. D. L. Welikala of Havelock Town, writes:

NOW that the Prime Minister has given his blessings to this proposed trip—thanks to the hundred Buddhist monks who interviewed the P.M. to press Mr. Marikar's claims—no time should be lost in securing the telephone and wireless apparatus so urgently required by Mr. Marikar's Ministry. Thousands of people are on the waiting list for telephones and for years, and although Mr. M. had stated earlier that a four or five storied building is required to house the necessary switch

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boards, and it is unlikely that such a building will be ready during the life-time of the present Parliament, there is no harm in securing the necessary equipment whilst the going is good without waiting for the cherry blossom season in Japan. This season I understand is around April each year and, it may go to April 1959 before the orders are placed and the equipment reaches our shores.

In this connection I would like to mention that it was reported in the press sometime ago that Mr. M. surrendered one of his four telephones from one of his private residences although the P.M. had stated in open sessions of the Parliament that Mr. M. was entitled to have as many telephones as his wives. That surrender was really a sacrifice on the part of Mr. M. on behalf of one telephone hungry person. Will Mr. M. further forego the pleasure of seeing cherry trees in bloom and go immediately to Japan for the sake of the others who are clamouring for telephones?

This is not a request or a suggestion for my personal benefit as I got a telephone now after waiting only a little more than four years before I was provided with one.

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WOULD HE SAY



Mr. Dudley Senanayake

"Another bee in my bonnet"

— (*) —



Maas D. Kitchilan

"I am in an alliterative mood. All I need say is that I am cool, collected and candid"

— (*) —



Mr. V. A. Sugathadasa

"Who said that I do not have the capacity to act graciously?"



Sir John Kotelawala

(To D.N.W.) "I present a French retort: Coup manque (a stroke that failed; an abortive attempt). To Kitchilan," I gift a Latin axiom: Fiat Justitia, ruat caelum. (Let justice be done, though the heavens fall.)



Dr. N. M. Perera

"At least one U.N.P. member's heart throbbed with anguish when they ousted me."

— (*) —

Solving the Language Problem

(Continued from cover page)

provinces, that they could obtain security and development, in their own way according to their own ideas of their cultural and economic life.

The Tamils know that in social customs the Sinhalese have much in common with them, yet most of them believe today that the Sinhalese want to liquidate them. The result of all this misunderstanding is that the Tamils especially of the North and East, have understood little of the recent development in the Sinhalese areas. It is very difficult for them to grasp the causes of the events that led to the Sinhalese Only Bill. The main reason is that there is no corresponding development among the Tamils. Among them there is no Tamil speaking Hindu movement

hostile to the English educated Tamil class. There is no strong movement against Christianity among the Hindus unlike in the Sinhalese areas. English has permeated among them, even the lower middle class. The result is that there is no Tamil speaking lower-middle class fighting for their rights against the English-educated Tamil or the Christian. Thus they do not realise that the recent development in the Sinhalese areas was really a movement among the Sinhalese educated Sinhalese of the lower middle class against the English educated Sinhalese of the upper middle class.

They have not perceived that the English educated class is as much the victims as themselves. The Tamils do not realise that it is a movement of the Sinhalese speak-

ing Buddhists against the privileged Christian community especially the Roman Catholic section. It is only in a lesser degree that the attack in the Sinhalese press is directed against the Tamils.

After Independence the Sinhalese speaking Sinhalese began to point out that in spite of the fact that the Sinhalese were were an independent people their Language was given a status inferior to that of English. The Sinhalese educated Sinhalese was looked upon as a social inferior, politically he had little power, His religion--Buddhism--received less attention than Christianity which had attained a privileged position under the British. Economically, he had hardly a standing in the island and the Sinhalese SSC-educated had very few avenues of employment. Unemployment among them was rampant and the Sinhalese educated youth began to despair because of their insecurity.

They therefore began to demand security for themselves, social justice, avenues for employment and a higher standard of living, such as those enjoyed by the English-educated class. The grievances gradually led to an emotional state and they made much of the language question, the Sinhalese-educated Sinhalese demanded that Sinhalese should replace English as the language of Government.

Once English was replaced, they feared--perhaps wrongly

(Continued on page 17)



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THE PADDY BILL



A SPECIAL committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon is examining the provisions of the proposed Paddy Lands Bill in order to submit a memorandum to the Government on the implications of the measure in so far as it will affect estate interests in particular and the country as a whole

Disclosing this, Senator Thomas Amarasuriya, Chairman of the P.A., told "The Times of Ceylon" that the committee would elicit the views of the P.A.'s district bodies on the Bill before making submissions on it.

It is learnt that when the Special Committee discussed the provisions of the Bill at its latest meeting, many members expres-

sed the view that it would adversely affect estate interests in the context of the working of the Food Production [Estates] Act.

It was pointed out that a large number of estates cultivating paddy, both with tenant cultivators and paid labour, would be brought within the scope of the Bill but no provision had been made in the Bill to allow estates reasonable profits from such cultivation.

SUGGESTION

It was felt that estates complying with the requirements of the Food Production (Estates) Act should be allowed to cultivate their fields with paid labour, provided they paid them such wages fixed by a Wages Board or a Cultivation Committee, appointed by the Government.

The Special Committee, while agreeing that exploitation of tenant cultivators was taking place in certain areas, was believed to have expressed the view that exploitation was not so widespread as to justify the application of such a 'revolutionary measure' throughout the country as the Paddy Bill, proposed to do



Senator Thomas Amarasuriya

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NEGOMBO

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MORATUWA

Classes held every Thursday. Dressmaking - Pattern Cutting - Machine Embroidery.

GAMPAHA

Classes held every Friday. Dressmaking - Pattern Cutting.

KURUNEGALA

Classes held every Saturday. Dressmaking - Pattern Cutting.

AMBALANGODA

Classes held every Wednesday. Dressmaking - Pattern Cutting.

KALUTARA

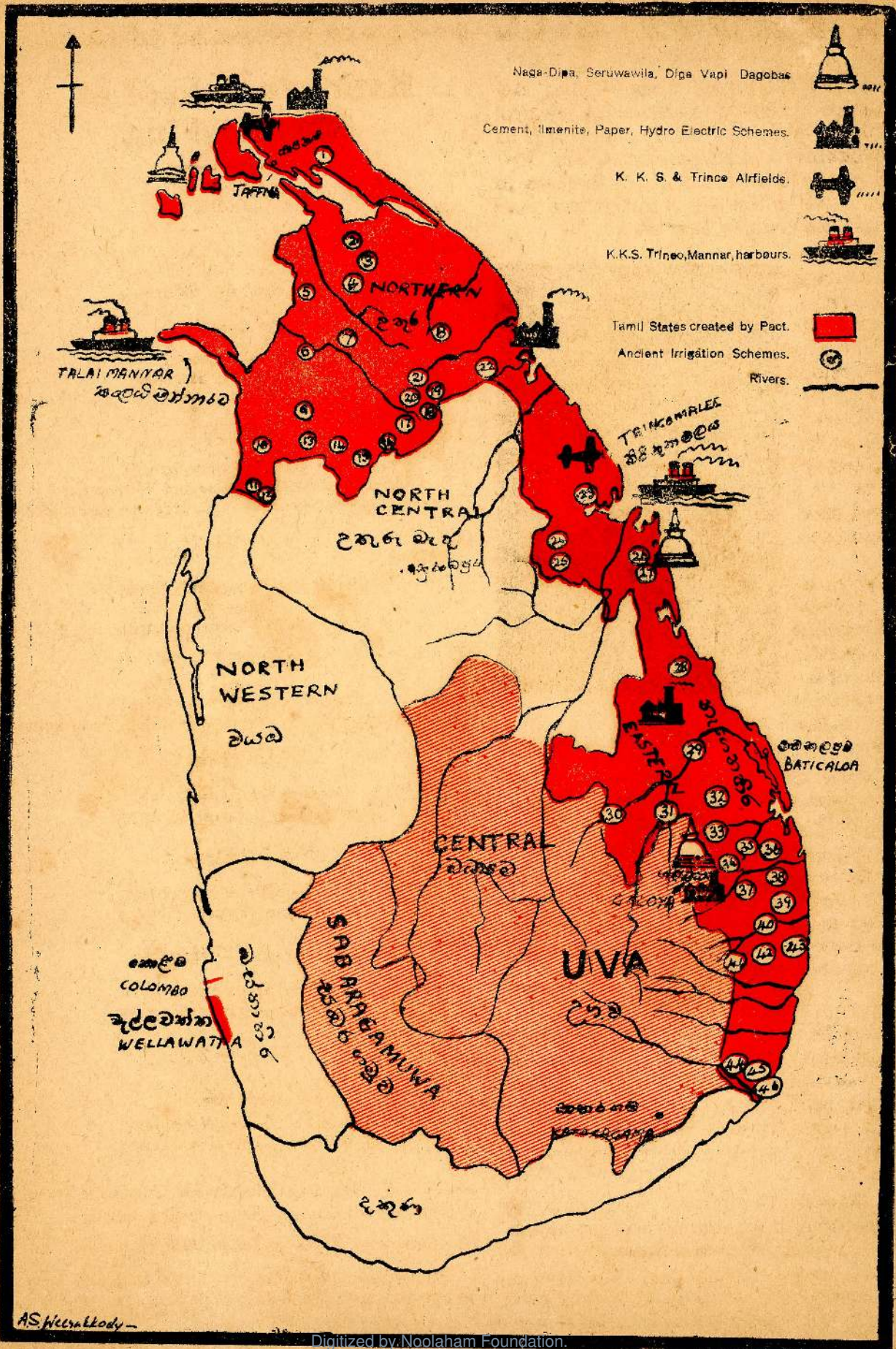
Town Club. Classes held every Wednesday. Dressmaking - Pattern Cutting.

ENQUIRIES regarding Colombo and Outstation Branch Schools Admissions and personal enquiries:-

The Secretary, Kathleen School of Dressmaking, 112, Havelock Road, Colombo 5. Phone 81343



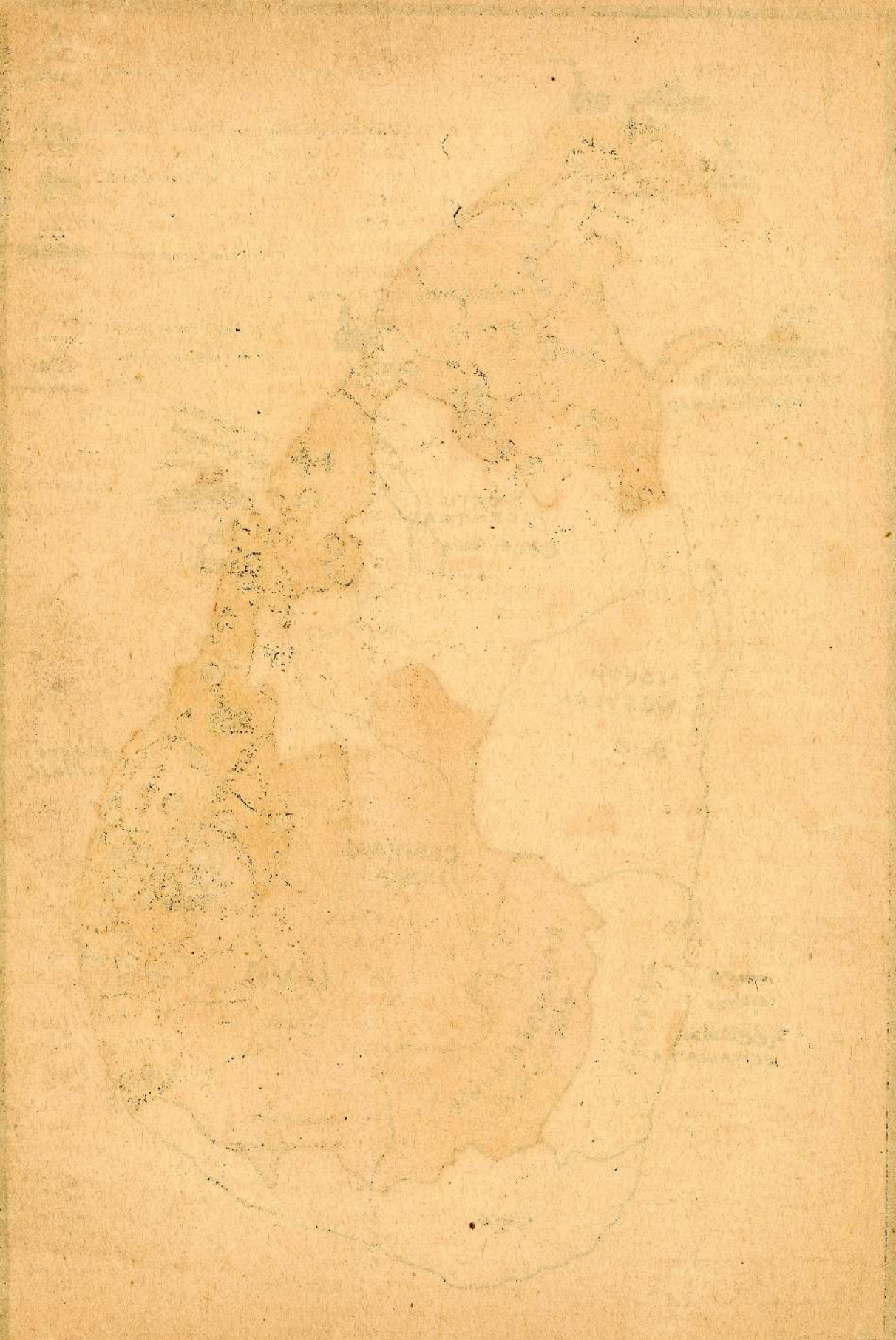
THE GREAT BETRAYAL



AS Weerakkody -

Digitized by Noolaham Foundation.

(1) Population—Northern and Eastern Provinces 1 Million, Rest of the Island 8 Million (Including 1 Million Indians).



Solving the Language Problem

(Continued from page 14)

—that Sinhalese might not be able to compete with Tamil. What chance, they asked, had the Sinhalese language spoken among 6 millions against a language freely used by nearly 30 millions in South India and Ceylon. Thus they were loth to give equality to Tamil and demanded a Sinhala Only Act.

Like the Tamil today the Sinhalese-speaking Sinhalese feared the extinction of their cultural heritage and are slow to give up what they have attained now by a social revolution which brought them victory in the last General Election.

The Tamils also hardly realise that just as they fear the Sinhalese are out to liquidate them the Sinhalese educated Sinhalese fear that as a result of the Federal demands the Tamils are out to dominate the Sinhalese and liquidate them. They ask why the Tamils demand an impossible parity in language. Why do



they want an autonomous linguistic State? The Sinhalese-educated know that the Tamils do not want Sinhalese colonists in the Eastern Province, lest the balance of political power there may upset. Why then they ask, do Tamils demand the complete enfranchisement of the Indians which would reduce the Kandyan Sinhalese Members in Parliament at least by half?

The Sinhalese-educated Sinhalese realise the tremendous pressure on land in the south-western areas. The Kandyan peasant is often landless or lives very often on an inadequate or uneconomical plot of land.

The Southern Province Sinhalese, like the Jaffna Tamil, migrates into every part of the island, into the Kandyan highlands, into the Jaffna Peninsula, into every part of the Dry Zone and take up work as labourers, cultivators, bakers, carpenters, etc. If colonisation in the Eastern Province is denied to the Sinhalese, how could the Tamils expect such Sinhalese to obtain even a bare existence?

Even the English-educated Sinhalese ask what the Tamils mean by parity. Does it mean that every government record should be kept in both, Sinhalese and Tamil? Has every deed, Every survey plan, every minute and every file to be kept in both languages? Does it mean that in every locality, whether a few Tamils live, both in the boys' and girls' schools there should be a Tamil stream even if such an arrangement is a financial impossibility. *The Methodist Record*

NO "SINHALA ONLY"

ENGLISH, INDESPENSIBLE

An official of the Minister of Posts, Broadcasting and Information told a pressman that all telephone subscribers had recently been asked whether they wanted their directories in English, Sinhalese or Tamil.

The replies were as follows:-

For English 8,200 For, Sinhalese 1,360 For Tamil 1,350 Most of those who said they wanted Sinhalese or Tamil directories said they also wanted copies of the Directory in English.

YOUR COMPLEXION

an ornament of beauty! And when your face is disfigured by pustules, red spots, a rugged skin, perspiration etc., then it is time to try the delightful PUROL POWDER, having such effective healing properties by its special compound. Ladies, appreciating a fair complexion, ought always to have a tin of PUROL powder ready on her dressing table.

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Repercussions of Competitive Soccer

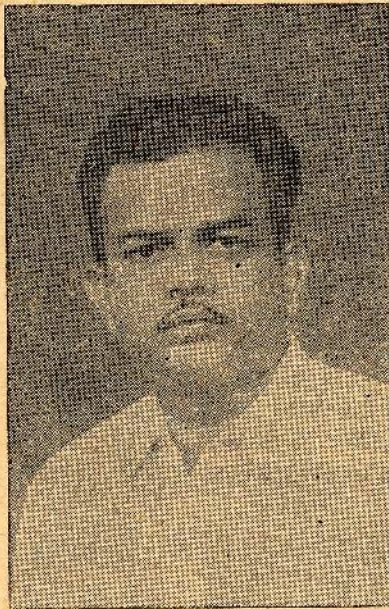
Stanley Mathews Gifts a Golden Key

BY J. E. REZEL

Respected, loved and hero-worshipped as the greatest outside right forward the world has ever seen, STANLEY MATHEWS' magnanimous gift to us is the golden key that unlocks the door of the dark chamber that leads to the disruptive forces at our soccer matches. In vivid, simple words his analysis is a thing of enduring beauty. Here it is:-
 ".....the competitive element has got on top."

This is the irrefutable reason for the disruption that has disturbed the tranquility of the spectators, depressed the feelings of the organisers and has warped the exuberance of players.

Here is the strong handle of his golden key:-



Mr. J. J. SARANGAPANY

The result of a match has become of too much importance and, therefore, is affecting tactics.

Leader of the Sports Delegation to Moscow who will give a graphic description of the 3rd International Games at Moscow and vignettes of contemporary life in Russia to THE SEARCHLIGHT.

COMPETITIVE soccer was evolved with the good intention of improving the artistry of the game and enlarging the area of its popularity by luring others to play in competitive soccer, which involved a trophy; either a Cup or a Shield. Whilst competitive soccer has been successful in the latter inten-

tion of the organisers, in the matter of artistry; which involves ball control, snappy but pleasing movements, positional play, dexterity and a strict regard for the physical safety of the opponent, modern soccer is a deteriorated version of the soccer of the good old days when the emphasis was on RECREATIONAL soccer.

The STANLEY MATHEWS' diagnosis that THE COMPETITIVE ELEMENT HAS GOT ON TOP explains lucidly the cause of the explosions of anger which have endangered the safety of those who were content to endure the cause which stirred the feelings of others to an angered demonstration of their roused feelings. The soccer spectator of

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today is not the passive creature of the past. He knows the laws of the game. As the years rolled on soccer players increased in their thousands and it is they who constitute the soccer spectators.

The number of soccer spectators who have not kicked a ball is a very small one. This is the vital background on which we should judge the temperament of the spectators who know the laws of the game. They watch a match with intense interest. They are deeply absorbed in the game. Not only visually but in spirit, too, they are moving about with the players and this accounts for their spontaneous aptitude to detect a Referee's lapses. They have the common sense to know that the Referee is not infallible and it is when the Referee gives ocular evidence of his fallibility, at times blatant and nonchalant, that the restlessness of spectators begin and the healthy climate of sportsman ship gets viciated with turbulency. This is the cardinal cause of the ugly scenes which have marred the sportsmanship of what should have been a pleasant evening.

Invasion of the grounds, coarse epitaphs, vulgar slogans, the hurling of stones, the flinging of chairs, the chasing of Referees, (considered righteous by the enraged spectators) have spoilt what should have been an immaculate evening of clean sport. This is the turbulency which has tortured the womb from which emerged the SOCCER SPECTATORS ASSOCIATION. Their substitute for the stumpy baton of the Policeman is the language of persuasion. Even these patient crusaders of peace must remember always STANLEY MATHEWS' diagnosis: THE COMPETITIVE ELEMENT HAS GOT ON TOP. A constant remembrance of this precious diagnosis will keep the crusaders on their toes at soccer matches.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the COMPETITIVE ELEMENT in soccer has no more disclosures to be revealed.

And it is precisely BECAUSE THE COMPETITIVE ELEMENT DOMINATES contemporary soccer that the ugly feature of some Clubs is to have recourse to the immoral tactic of emaciating other clubs of its outstanding players. The healthy sense of pride that once invigorated the member of a club by the proud acknowledgment of his being a member of such and such a club, is today, a matter of cold unconcern to

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many soccerites. Fidelity appears to be losing its previous value as a virtue of the member of a soccer club.

Of late there, has been a plethora of evidence of soccer players hopping from one club to another with shameless levity. This is the new immorality which threatens to conquer the virtue of fidelity on which is built the sturdy foundation of a club's membership.

It would be foolish for me to refute that TRANSFUSION is healthy and is conducive to development. Transfusion is scientific but in the name of science must the transfusion be immoral? Must one club emaciate another solely for the purpose of STRENGTHENING its team? Do not ethical codes ennoble the character of soccer clubs?

Take the case of the Kotahena Rangers. With the Army being out of a Tournament, it is not an immoral act for some of their players to play for the Rangers, or any other club. It is better to be PLAYING FIT than to be left in cold storage by not playing soccer for a period.

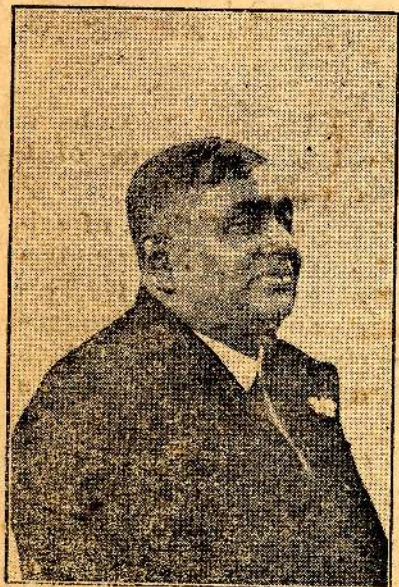
The verdict is an impeachable one! Some Soccer Clubs are so OVERWHELMED WITH THE COMPETITIVE ELEMENT that they have impinged on the ennobling characteristics of sportsman ship.

Who could find fault with the members of the Colombo Football League for closing its gates to the Mercantile Football Association?

Sir Wilfred in Recollective Mood

(BY J. E. REZEL)

WITH the cool breeze of the restless ocean constantly playing on his burly body, Sir Wilfred de Soysa spoke copiously with me one morning on the Galle Face Promenade, of the days that have carved an indelible impression in his mind.



Sir Wilfred de Soysa

The kind hearted Knight, an animate portrait of the quintessence of simplicity, was seated in a cane chair with the broad shadow of a "pill box" of World War II providing the relaxing Knight with ample shade from the rising sun. He was looking

into the vast expanse of blue waters and perhaps, in estacy as each breaking wave let loose thousands of liquid pearls on the crisp sands of the foot imprinted beach.

The Knight spoke freely of the days gone by. Disappointments, unhealthy strategy, duplicity, the political gourmand, the patriot, the hypocrite, the traitor, the evolution of the island's independence movement, the Donoughmore Commission, the State Council the confidence and despair in human nature and contemporary life were alluded to with remarkable clarity, sincerity of feeling and an ardent desire for moulding life on the silver anvil of communal harmony.

Age has not impaired the natural dignity of the Knight nor has the Cup of Life been soured with bitter experience. The limpid waters of the enormous springs of Christianity have invigorated him. This is the unflinching strength which has enabled Sir Wil-

fred to endure human failings with the magnanimity that is the prerogative of the Christian who has been strengthened with the pabulum of Christian fellowship.

The life of the nation is involved with the soft, iridescent name, DE SOYSA; it is a name that Posterity will cherish; a name that ensures stability, integrity, christian charity and fosters good will among men.

The Stabbing Knife

Weapons of destruction have had a scientific development. From the crude swords and staves used in primitive times we reached the era of gun-powder and shot. Now we have a more up-to-date and devastating weapon in the Hydrogen Bomb.

Here in Ceylon, however, the crude weapons are still in vogue. The stabbing knife is being increasingly used, and the rate of homicide is rising rapidly. We pass resolutions banning the Hydrogen Bomb which we do not possess. How is it that we have not yet passed a resolution banning the stabbing knife? Of course, the H'Bomb causes a mass destruction, which cannot be compared with the one by one method of killing by the knife. But life is life whether it is killed en masse or one by one.

How is it that we have a conscience, or seem to have one about the H'Bomb, and hardly have any conscience about the daily toll of life, that the stabbing knife takes?

Jesus Christ has a pungent word to say about this kind of attitude "Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye: and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

The Methodist Record

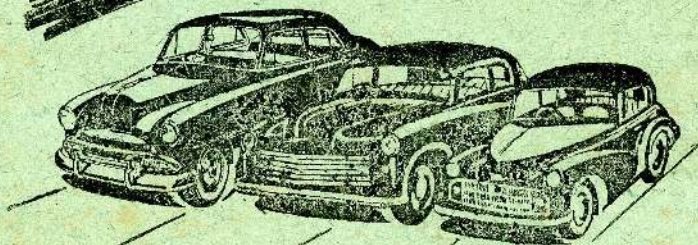
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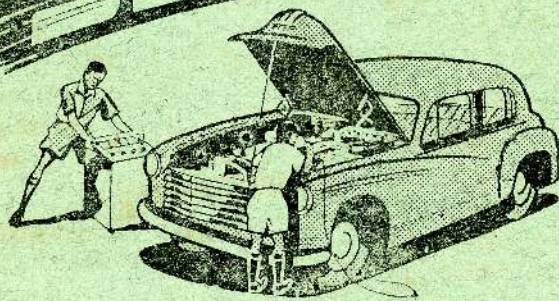
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