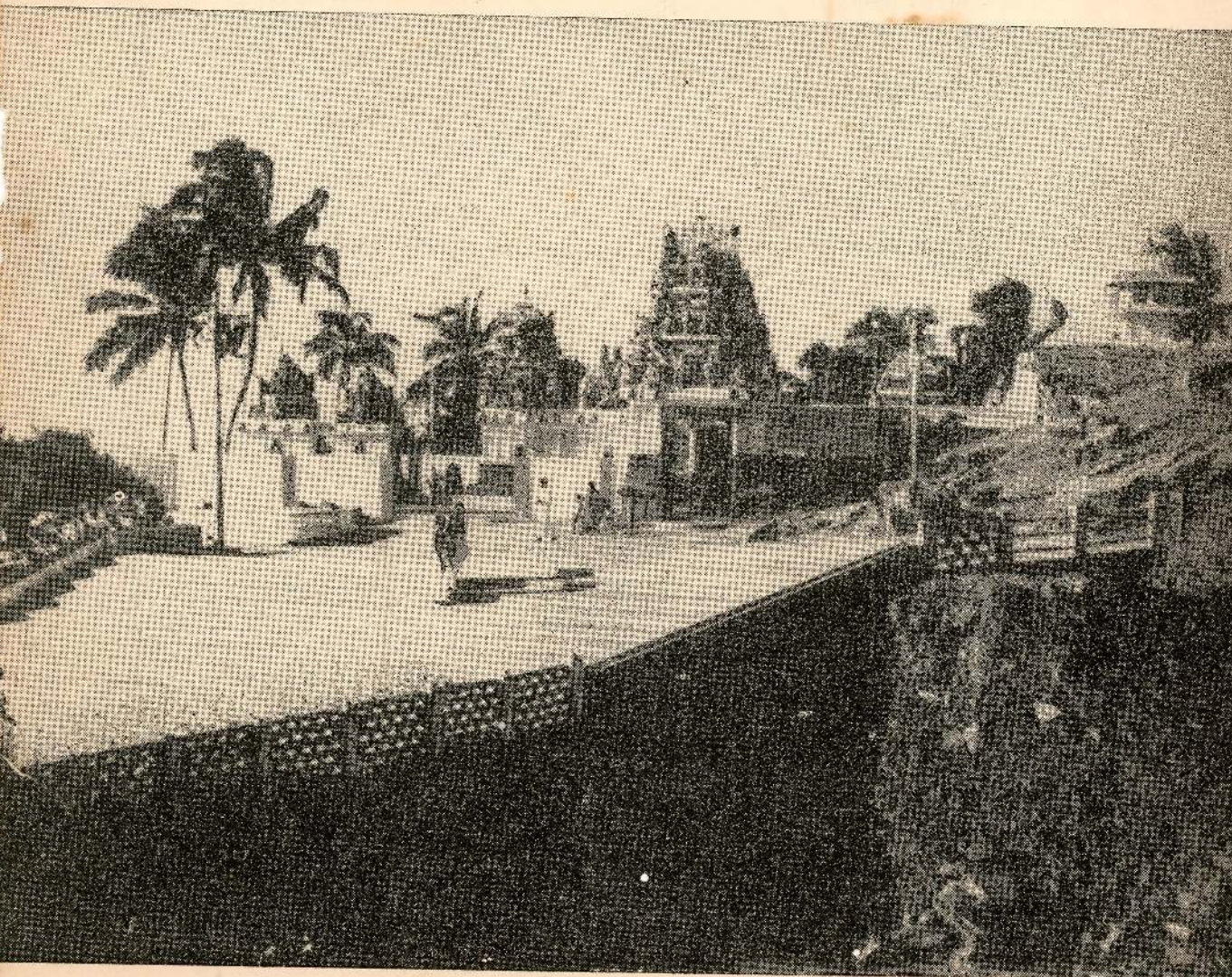


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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER we have a picture of the modern temple of Koneswaram on Swamy Rock in Trincomalee. This temple is said to be on the site of the old temple destroyed by the Portuguese. It was recently renovated and enlarged. "The first *Kumphaphisheka* ceremony took place in the year 1963 and the Board of Trustees with the President M. K. Sellarajah decided to have the *Kumphaphisheka* for this historic temple. Towards this end the Palasthapana ceremony took place on 4.5.80. and after renovating the temple work the Maha *Kumphahisheka* ceremony took place on 25.1.1981 with Swaminathar Parameswara Kurukkal as the Chief priest. Associated with him were Thirukola Ramanatha Sivachariyar from India and fifty five other priests from all over Sri Lanka. The oil anointing ceremony took place on 23.1.81. for the Lingham a rare privilege for the worshippers. Immediately after the *Kumphahishesam*, the *Madalahishekam* continued for forty five days and the *Mandalapoorthy* took place on 11.3.81. and the *Mandalapoorthy Ejaman Aphishekam* was held. On the 12th, 13th and 14th of March 1981 the Konesar town procession took place and on the 15th March 1981 the *Navagraha Mandalahishekam* took place. On the 20th March 1981 the flag hoisting ceremony of the Konesar Temple took place with the water cutting ceremony on the 6th April 1981 and ending the finale with the *Theppa Thiruvila* on the 8th April 1981. The events from 4.5.80. till the 8.4.81 at the Konesar temple within a period of one year were a historic and proud achievement during our times and this period will go down in the history of the Konesar Temple." A reader has sent us these particulars and although the events took place over a year ago we publish the some for the record. *One reason why we have turned the spotlight on Trincomalee is that the Tender for the lease and development of the Oil Storage Tanks Complex will close on May 31.* The abortive contract with the Coastal Oil Corporation of Texas which had stirred up a storm of protest here and in countries like India has left a bad odour over the political climate of Sri Lanka—that the UNP was anxious to sell Trincomalee to the US Navy under cover of an apparently innocuous commercial deal. An *IPS-Bharati* despatch from Colombo published in Indian papers sets out the position very succinctly; "More hints emerged yesterday that Sri Lanka has called off a controversial deal with the US transnational Coastal Oil Corporation, to set up an international oil storage complex at the east Sri Lankan port-town of Trincomalee. The State-owned Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) issued a press advertisement yesterday calling for fresh offers from prospective foreign collaborators 'to rehabilitate develop, operate and market its oil storage tank farm at the China Bay, Trincomalee, as an international oil storage complex'...." The *IPS-Bharati* report went on: "The press advertisements and the conditions disallowing storage of 'oil owned by any military establishment' are apparently meant to allay Indian fears and opposition claims that the Government of President Junius Jayewardene has been holding secret negotiations with the United States to turn strategic Trincomalee into a US naval base.... The opposition here has claimed the suspended deal with Coastal was in fact a camouflage for Sri Lanka's role in the new Reagan plan for the Indian Ocean to counter increasing Soviet military presence...." **The Government of Sri Lanka will do well to take note of all the fears and apprehensions that had surfaced when the Coastal deal was on when concluding any new agreement.**

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CONTENTS

LETTER FROM EDITOR	1
— Trincomalee	
EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK	2
— E. L. S.	
FILM FOCUS	6
— Guru	
SRI LANKA CHRONICLE	9
— May 2 - 8	
WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF	11
— May 1 - 7	
FOREIGN SCENE	12
— Indo-China	
— Nuclear	
— Warnke	
— Peace Movement	
AGRICULTURAL DIGEST	14
— Avocado	
— Fenugreek	
— JEDB	
— Earthworm	
MAHAWELI FORUM	19
— Ecological	
SPORTSCOPE	21
— Chronicle:	
— Football Coaches	
FOR THE RECORD	24
— Sri Lanka - USSR	
— US Strategy	
— Falklands	
CONFIDENTIALLY	28
— Yet More Upali	

E. L. Senanayake

The E. L. Senanayake (ELS) affair has been the major talking point in political circles from the time the story about investigations into certain tenders became public knowledge. No sooner it was known that the President had asked Cabinet Secretary, G. V. P. Samarasinghe to look into certain tenders finalised by ELS's ministry than speculation began to mount, first in quarters close to the centres of power, and then among the public at large. Every story of this kind snowballs with amazing rapidity in this country. Then came the whispers from "reliable sources" that G. V. P.'s findings were adverse to ELS. At this point, it was said that ELS had insisted that his Secretary Ranjan Wijeyeratne was responsible for everything that had taken place and insisted on a Committee of Inquiry consisting of the President, the Prime Minister and the seniormost among the Ministers (Montague Jayawickrema) should look into the matter. The Committee had met and had talked to (or questioned) among others ELS, Ranjan Wijeyeratne and G. V. P. Samarasinghe. Then it was confidently predicted that ELS would be asked to resign—in the same way that Anura Daniel was asked.

Then came the bombshell. A government communique issued said that the Committee had only found "irregularities in procedure" and that there was no allegation or evidence of corruption. On this note, there was a switch of Ministers—ELS being moved to Health which he claimed was his "first love".

This way of resolving the storm that had arisen over the ELS affair was a major body blow to the UNP's credibility at a time when it had sunk very low in the matter of rooting out corruption (the "punishment" meted out to Anura Daniel was still regarded as a flash in the pan—when the handling of ELS completely wiped out what little mileage the UNP has derived from sacking the Hewaheta MP). The Opposition papers went to town on this but their venomous rhetoric through avidly read does not have the impact of more restrained critical exposures. But more effective than the Oppositions wolf-cries was the rumbling determination of the Young Turks within the UNP itself who felt that if the ELS imbroglio was resolved by a switch of Ministries and blah-blah about procedural "irregularities" (without any suspicion of corruption) it would reduce current UNP anti-corruption drive into a joke that would rebound on the Government. This groundswell in the UNP found expression through certain Cabinet Ministers—Ranil Wickremasinghe, Lalith Athulathumudali, and Vincent Perera. And it is said that senior Ministers did not oppose what they said; that ELS had been let off so lightly that it would do untold damage to the Party's fortunes.

Matters were expected to come to a head at the Cabinet meeting on May 12. And it did. It is not clear what had happened behind the scenes, but after an "exchange of words" between certain Ministers and ELS, he had (it is reported) set down the date on a letter of resignation he had either with him or had handed over to the President earlier.

Within half an hour of the resignation (said to have been given between 10.30 and 11 a.m.) a communique was issued in which it was said that the "President was pleased to accept it" (without the usual formula in the case of such Ministerial resignations of accepting it "with regret"). ELS went out and young Dr. Ranjit Attapattu was sworn in as Minister of Health within the hour. The resignation of ELS, after a melodrama that has brought no credit to the UNP, is one of those "better late than never" episodes. His action was in sharp contrast to that of Ranjan Wijeyeratne who had resigned because in the course of the Committee's inquiry it was found that one of his Assistant Secretaries (no longer in service) had been guilty of an "irregularity" in Tender procedures—Wijeyeratne taking the responsibility for an act of a subordinate.

Whilst the Opposition papers have sought to get the maximum mileage from the way the UNP dealt with ELS, the official media was busy explaining why everything happened the way it did. *Insider* in his column *A Look At Politics* in the *Ceylon Daily News* of Saturday, May 15 under the heading **NOTHING UNDER THE CARPET** said: "All's well that ends well. That feeling dominated UNP thinking at the end of the Senanayake affair. This unhappy episode in the UNP's contemporary history was fortunately not swept under the carpet, as such episodes have been in the past. It was bared for all to see and read. Newspapers reported it openly. The decision of the Presidential Committee probing allegations about Minister Senanayake's indiscretions regarding a tender was banner-spread in the Press. The Senanayake affair was public knowledge, as rightly it should be in a democracy. Having probed the allegations, the Presidential Committee held that Mr. Senanayake was guilty of procedural irregularities but not of corruption. His speeches immediately after he became Minister of Health, more in pique than in design, certainly grated on the hierarchy as it did on the Young Turks of the UNP led by Ministers Ranil Wickremasinghe, Lalith Athulathumudali and Gamini Dissanayake. ELS was made aware of it. On Wednesday morning he showed up (or was summoned) to the Presidential abode. There Mr. Jayewardene and Mr. Senanayake had a heart to heart chat.

"And there, his resignation was given to the President—but it was undated. Later the burly Mr. Senanayake walked into the Cabinet Meeting long after it started. The President informed him that in his absence Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe had criticised

Mr. Senanayake's first speech in Parliament as Minister of Health. Ranil had also cast several strictures about his Ministerial conduct regarding the Tender affair. Mr. Lalith Athulathumudali said there was no personal malice in his criticism. Mr. Senanayake's contribution to the UNP was immeasurable but in the context of the allegations made against him and in the light of Mr. Senanayake's love for the UNP he should do the right thing by the Party. Mr. Senanayake announced that his resignation had already been given to the President but he had not dated it as his wife was lying seriously ill at the hospital. But he would do so now. The resignation was then dated and handed to the President. There were more than pangs of regret that the veteran heavy-weight of the UNP had ended his long career so summarily. But the consensus of UNP thinking was aptly summed up by one of his colleagues: "Not that we love ELS less, but that we love our Party more," he said. Conjecture immediately took wing as to ELS's immediate future. Would he resign from the Party and shun the political footlights in which he glowed for over 25 years? Or would he continue as a MP till the General Elections? His UNP colleagues would like him to stay on as a M. P. and serve the Hill capital which was virtually his pocket borough. But one hard fact has emerged from the Senanayake affair—the Young Turks of the UNP are determined to sweep corruption out of their ranks. And that decision has the Presidential blessing all the way".

This piece is nothing more than an apologia for the UNP for not having dealt with ELS differently. In the *Sunday Times*, March 16 the main political columnist, *An Observer in The Times*, was silent about ELS (he concentrated on the fighting in the SLFP) but Kenneth Hall who does a summary of the week events set out: "After holding the portfolio he claimed was most close to his heart for a week, Health Minister E. L. Senanayake decided to drop it. In the course of what has been described as a dramatic Cabinet meeting, the stout-hearted Minister handed in his resignation and went home. There were quick reactions. The President's Secretariat issued two short press releases. One informed the public that His Excellency the President was pleased to accept the resignation of the Minister of Health and the other that Mr. Ranjith Atapattu, the Minister in charge of Colombo Hospitals and Family Health had been appointed the new Health Minister. Meanwhile, Mr. E. L. Senanayake, MP for Kandy, who had one week earlier swapped Ministries with Mr. Gamini Jayasuriya, relaxed at the Official Minister's bungalow meeting the numerous friends who called on him. He told Pressmen that he would tell the country the reasons for his taking the decision to resign. It should be interesting to know".

Migara in the *Weekend* of May 16, under the headline SURGERY WAS THE CURE: AT LAST AN EXEMPLARY GOVERNMENT THAT IS MINDFUL TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

OF PUBLIC OPINION did his best to pull the chesnuts out of the fire for the UNP which had nearly been a non-starter in the ELS stakes. However, he made public much of what had happened behind the curtains and even under the carpet.

Migara opened his piece thus: "What an exciting finish it was. A true life thriller that kept a nation absorbed in the events for the past month. And with that end, a new chapter has been written in the annals of the contemporary history of Lanka. For the first time in Sri Lanka's democratic government, a Cabinet Minister and a very senior member of the ruling party at that was pressurised to resign. Sri Lanka has come out with flying colours as an example in clean government. The Ministers here are not immune nor are there cover ups as in most other countries in the world nor are they snooty at dawn like they did to a Soviet Minister who sold illegally some caviar. It was only last week that people were discussing among themselves the decision taken by the ruling UNP leadership to swap portfolios of Ministers E. L. Senanayake and Gamani Jayasuriya because there were irregular tender awards made in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research of which E. L. Senanayake was then Minister. What the people expected was something more drastic, not a mere change of portfolios. The UNP's Working Committee and the Government Parliamentary Group had given their leader, President J. R. Jayewardene, absolute power to take the sternest action against its own party men in the event of malpractices. A committee of senior Cabinet Ministers which included the President and the Prime Minister sat to inquire on the awarding of some tenders in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research. They found there was irregularities. And then, the Minister in charge was merely given another portfolio which he himself said was his 'first love' after all. But the punishment didn't fit the crime and there were protests".

Then he went on to describe the "howls of protest" that had arisen inside the UNP. "There were howls of protest as a result, many of them coming from those very close to the UNP leader. Was this the solution, they asked. It was indeed better had all this fuss, this mandate, this Cabinet Sub-Committee and the like been non-existent. It would have been better not to have had anything of the sort rather than formally announce a clean up drive and then allow it to fizzle out, or like Nelson did turn a blind-eye on it all. Party members, including some Cabinet Ministers expressed disillusionment over the entire exercise. Some were even talking of retiring from politics. UNP voters were saying they will not vote at the next elections. Almost all of them felt let down and went through an ordeal of agonised soul-searching and gleeful criticism by the opposition supporters—who were adding salt to the wounds. In fact what was happening was that the criticism was being directed right to the top and the pristine image of the

UNP leader itself was being tarnished as a result of his very association with the decision. If there were irregularities in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research why was the Minister taken out and given another prominent Ministry? If on the other hand the Minister was not responsible for those irregularities, why was he taken out of that portfolio in the first place? To all this, and more, President Jayewardene listened during last week, since his sudden decision and even execution of that decision last Tuesday. Then almost exactly a week later, that decision was reversed and Minister E. L. Senanayake was asked to submit his resignation pronto as Minister of Health which he had held for just that week."

Then *Migara* summed up the reactions of the President—as repeated "in confidence" in the lobbies and corridors of political power: "It was last Tuesday that the portfolio of Health and Agricultural Development and Research were swapped like musical chairs. A series of other minor changes camouflaged the burning question of that day. On Wednesday, last week, May 5, at the weekly Cabinet meeting, President Jayewardene read out the official statement he himself had drafted and corrected on the irregular awarding of tenders in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research. But he also spoke somewhat harshly on the subject that day. He referred to some cheques that had been drawn supposedly on behalf of the United National Party. He said the Minister concerned was not an office-bearer of the party and had no business to say he was accepting money on behalf of the party. The two cheques amounted to over a million rupees. Was the money even handed over, the President queried. Speaking further on the subject of corruption, President Jayewardene referred to two other investigations, he had ordered the CID to further conduct, which involved the Minister of Indigenous Medicine, Dr. Dharmasena Attyagalle and the new District Minister for Ratnapura, Nanda Mathew. He said he wanted the investigations completed to see who is at the bottom of all this, even if the Ministers themselves were innocent."

Describing ELS' responses *Migara* said: "That very afternoon in Parliament, Minister E. L. Senanayake made a speech on the Indemnity Bill—a bill to restrict legal proceedings against certain persons in connection with certain actions taken by them or alleged to have been taken by them for the restoration of law and order as a result of a series of offences including murder, rape, and arson committed between August 1 1977 and August 31, 1977, where there was a general breakdown in the law and order situation throughout the country".

With this came the UNP reactions to the speech: "This very speech happened to be one of the causes of Minister Senanayake's downfall and exit from the Cabinet. It was in this speech that Minister E. L.

Senanayake called Cabinet Secretary and his one time batch-mate G. V. P. Samarasinghe a 'fossil'. It will be recalled that it was President Jayewardene who asked G. V. P. Samarasinghe to submit a report on the alleged award of irregular tenders in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research. That report stated that there were irregularities in that Ministry. Later G. V. P. Samarasinghe also gave evidence at the Sub-Committee inquiry. Furthermore, Minister Senanayake had stated in part that it was his leader (President Jayewardene) who wanted the law brought. UNPers say that this was not correct. That it was on a matter raised specifically by Minister Senanayake that the Cabinet had agreed to bring in such a law. The complaints were made to President Jayewardene about Minister Senanayake's speech was obvious. By Thursday, a stream of visitors, almost all UNP loyalists were filing into Braemar, Ward Place, the private residence of President Jayewardene.

"The complaints were two fold. One was that the people were resenting the decision to give Minister E. L. Senanayake the portfolio of Health because there were irregularities in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research and the other was about Minister Senanayake's ill-advised speech in Parliament. The callers included Cabinet Ministers, District Ministers, MPs, Chairmen of Corporations and other well wishers of the ruling UNP. Minister of Sports and Parliamentary Affairs and Chief Government Whip Vincent Perera was one of them. In fact Trade & Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmuoali also met President Jayewardene about that time soon after his return from a visit to the United States. These visits were made by Saturday of last week, the after Vesak and it seemed that by then that President Jayewardene had seemingly made up his mind to ask Minister E. L. Senanayake to quit. This is the point at which one ought to appreciate this Government's approach. Never before in independent Lanka's history has a Cabinet Minister been asked to resign for reasons other than strictly political. A decision was made by the Leadership which a majority of others felt was unwise. They had the opportunity and the accessibility to the leadership. They expressed their opinion and the leadership was open to that criticism. It was a welcome departure from the past when the leadership wore blinkers to public opinion and carried on regardless perhaps on the basis that they were immaculate and immune to corruption of any sort. They were ultimately chased to the political wilderness by the voters of this country. And then, after that, they wondered what could have gone wrong."

Then, there is graphic description of what took place at the Cabinet meeting on May 12. But before dealing with what took place in the Cabinet, it would be interesting to see how *The Island* treated the problem of ELS. From the coverage of the ELS episode, it

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

was known that Upali's publications looked kindly on ELS as a "victim" of some kind of unholy conspiracy. Vijaya who writes the political column *Island Politics* in a piece entitled **EL AFFAIR AND THE AFTERMATH** in the Sunday edition of *The Island* on May 16 stated: "The resignation of E. L. Senanayake from his week-old Health portfolio brought to an end the career of a man who has strode the political stage for many decades. But he left amidst controversy, and there are those who believe he will not take things lying down. But with his departure overseas today to seek medical attention for his wife, the political stage will be devoid of one of the most colourful and controversial people who had been dubbed the king of the hills. It was only the previous week that the Cabinet Sub-Committee announced that procedures laid down by the Cabinet had not been followed, nor had Cabinet approval been obtained for some of the tenders awarded by the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research. But the Sub-Committee also said that no allegations of corruption had been made nor was there any evidence of corruption. But the switching of portfolios did not satisfy those who felt blood must be drawn. To those in the opposition, it was a case of exchanging pillows to cure a headache. There were those in the UNP hierarchy who felt that the Government must make some move. They said that there has been too much talk about corruption but little action. The pressure began to build up and E. L. Senanayake got wind of it too. He was told that three Ministers are going to raise it at Cabinet level. There was more than one Minister who was openly telling friends, The EL affair is not over. On Wednesday, EL saw the President before the Cabinet meeting. It was in connection with seeking permission to take his wife overseas for urgent medical attention. What transpired between the two is known only to the President and EL. But it was clear that the writing was on the wall. EL handed over a letter of resignation which he had been carrying in his pocket. The undated letter read as follows: *'Your Excellency, First, let me thank you most sincerely for having appointed me as Minister of Health in your Government. I deeply appreciate this act of as it has helped in some way to clear my name. In my forty years of public life the greatest wealth I earned for myself, which I hope to pass on to my children and grand-children is that I have been an 'honest' politician. After the terrible battering I have received and the malicious villifications carried out by a certain group of newspapers which has not only aggravated my wife's illness, it has also caused terrible damage both mentally and physically to me. In fairness to Your Excellency as my Chief and in fairness to my Party and country, I feel that the responsibility placed on me as Minister of Health is very important as it concerns the lives of our fellow human beings. In my present condition, I may not be able to fulfil the task you have entrusted on me.*

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

In full measure. I have therefore decided to offer my resignation from the post of Minister of Health. This does not mean that I will in any way forsake my loyalty to you as the leader of the United National Party to which I have belonged from its inception in 1947 nor will I cease to take an interest in, the future of my Party. As soon as my wife's condition improves, I will contact Your Excellency. With my best respects, I shall always remain, Yours sincerely, E. L. Senanayake, Minister of Health.

"But the letter was not handed over then. Soon after E. L. left the President's office. But he chose to arrive late for the weekly Cabinet meeting. Education Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe was the first to speak. But EL said that he knew the order of speeches and who the other two speakers would be. **After an exchange of words, EL said that the resignation letter was in his pocket. He signed it and gave it to the President and walked out.** While this drama was taking place, the Minister for Colombo Hospitals, Dr. Ranjit Atapattu, was unveiling a portrait of a former medical superintendent at the Colombo General Hospital. On returning to his office, he was told that he should go to the Cabinet office immediately. He was very surprised then the President told him 'You have been appointed the Minister of Health'. Like in the case of Health Minister Gamini Jayasuriya the previous week, the portfolio was a complete surprise.

"On Thursday, there was another interesting development. On the orders of President Jayewardene, the CID had taken over the files pertaining to the case of five packages said to contain watches, which had been alleged brought in by a high ranking politico some months ago. The politico was summoned for the inquiry but be never turned up. The suspicion of the Customs had been aroused when one of the packages was seen to be damaged and watches were visible. The packages were not claimed but the name and address of the politico were on the packages. With this and various allegations being bandied about, the question is whether a serious attempt is being made to give a new image to the party. It is significant that the powers given to the President to take action on corruption was first proposed in 1978 but was not accepted. A top politico had opposed it then saying if such a resolution was moved, the people would think that the Government Party was corrupt."

On the front page of the same paper there was a headline splash: **I WON'T RUN AWAY VOWS UNDAUNTED EL:** "That gravel-voiced, doughty fighter from the hills might be battered. But his, head is unbowed. Two days after he handed in his resignation to President Jayawardene sixty two year old E. L. Senanayake, the man who spent 42 years of it in politics vowed: 'I will not run away

I will continue to serve my people as their Member of Parliament. To my party, I will remain as loyal as ever before. I shall never betray my leader, His Excellency the President. I will continue to honour him. I have taken orders from my leader and carried them out. Mr. Senanayake was speaking exclusively to *The Island*. Dismissing rumours that he would be removed from the party, Mr. Senanayake said: "No one can remove me from the party for I have not committed any offence. I resigned as a Cabinet Minister as I did it on my own—no one asked me to resign. I am a founder member of the party and I have, at all times, followed the principles and policies of the party. I have never been guilty of a breach of party discipline," he added. Asked why he decided to resign, Mr. Senanayake said that he had been suffering great pain of mind for the past two and a half months because of the trend of events that took place. With such worries on his mind, it was not fair to hold the portfolio of Minister of Health who had given his undivided attention to the sick of the country. In addition to his worries, a certain section of the press including certain government controlled newspapers had made baseless allegations against him, he said. Explaining how he came to resign last Wednesday Mr. Senanayake said he went to the President's residence early morning on Wednesday and expressed his desire to resign. Later in the day, he went to the Cabinet meeting with the letter of resignation in his pocket which he handed over to President Jayewardene. Mr. Senanayake said that all the Ministers were now aware of the findings of the Cabinet Subcommittee headed by the President and appointed at his request."

Such was *The Island's* version.

Migara however briefly summed the day events differently. "Over the weekend, President Jayewardene conferred with Prime Minister R. Premadasa over the matter and informed him that he was going to ask his new Health Minister E. L. Senanayake to resign. Minister Senanayake meanwhile had just returned from a visit to Kataragama and Tissamaharama in the company of the new Minister of Agricultural Development and Research, Gamini Jayasuriya. They had travelled together in a helicopter given by President Jayewardene. He had upon his return to Colombo proceeded to Kandy for the weekend. It was ironical that only a Sunday earlier, President Jayewardene had decided to make Agricultural Development and Research Minister E. L. Senanayake, the Minister of Health and summoned the then Health Minister Gamani Jayasuriya all the way from Geneva to take the Agricultural Development & Research portfolio. Within the beginning of the new week, the callers at Ward Place and the President's office had not ceased to express their displeasure over the previous week's decision. Then on Tuesday Youth Affairs and Education Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe virtually led a delegation which included

Colombo West MP Anura Bastian to see President Jayewardene. It was Ranil Wickremasinghe who proposed both at the Working Committee and the Government Parliamentary Group meeting the open mandate to President Jayewardene to cleanse the party so that the good name of the party and integrity of those elected and those selected will be unimpeachable. It was an obviously agitated Youth Affairs Minister who met President Jayewardene that evening. That very night Minister E. L. Senanayake was requested to come over to Sri Kotha the UNP headquarters at Kollupitiya. There he met the UNP Chairman for what was more than a chat. Here at Sri Kotha Mr. N. G. P. Panditharatne, conveyed the decision of President Jayewardene to Minister E. L. Senanayake and impressed upon him for more than one reason why should tender his resignation..."

To be Concluded



FILM FOCUS

Guru

As anticipated by this column, the Tamil release *Guru* has continued to hug the Concord Cinema screen for nearly 250 days, and at the time of writing is relentlessly keeping its holdover figure and gathering strength from day to day. In review, this column had held that this film had nothing extraordinary, for very many better films with like gimmicks had weakened with 100 days and moved away from the Metropolis. The Concord being a smaller cinema in comparison to other movie houses in the city, with an excellent projector that accounts for the immaculate condition of this copy in spite of 4 shows per day, does not find it difficult to keep to the weekend holdover limits, this creating problems for the smaller cinemas in the outstations. The question therefore arises, whether any single cinema, however well maintained should retain for long periods a monopoly over a single copy, while outstation exhibitors keep counting the days anxiously for the release of a "Guru" at their cinemas. This matter has to be viewed realistically for the *Kalpana* cinema, from which Tamil films made quicker exit, is now a Sinhalese sixth release centre. This column initiated this move at the *Kalpana*, but did not foresee the replaced Concord running a record on Tamil films such as *Guru*. Whether this is only a passing phase is left to be seen. To overcome such a bottleneck, an outstation exhibitor has offered Film Focus a solution. He states that whenever a Tamil film completes a 120 day run at a single cinema, it should have earned very much more than its keep, while correspondingly having fattened the NFC coffers, to qualify for an extra copy of the film being purchased to take on the outstation runs. This remedy while not penalising the

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

cinema where the film is running to popular mass appeal, will also not jeopardise the harder hit out-stations to get their turns quicker. This column cannot delve deeper into the mechanics of the solution offered, and the feasibility of the National Film Corporation being able to purchase this extra copy in the contract of the agreement with Indian Producers, but on face value it could meet the issues posed by this unexpected development as in the instance of *Guru*. This column welcomes any alternative solutions to this problem, and will air them when space permits, to strike out a mean that would keep the smaller exhibitors and the NFC content.

ALL THAT JAZZ (English): A couple of decades ago, JAZZ syncopated music and dances of US Negro origin—was the base on which many popular musicals were spun from Hollywood studios to delight many picture goers. There is unfortunately a dearth of such films now and this glittering production has broken down this barrier like an oasis in a desert to fill the vacuum. By sheer class alone, it maintains a neat balance between the rhythmic beats and a humane story that threads it along. Four Oscars had come its way by the stereophonic vitality that needles every reel under the creative hand of Bob Fosse, who projects with brilliance, the story of a top Jazz Director Joe Gideon (Roy Schneider) who dedicates his life under sufferance, to further his Jazz musical experience to a perfection, at the risk of his family life, that keeps drifting, by his few fleeting affairs off stage, extreme egoism, and a combustion that burns him up physically—the tranquillising factors, being an overdose of cigarettes, liquor and adulterous bouts between besheets! His intense fervour for a Jazzy finesse is so extended to his pretty apprentices on stage, that his cardiac muscles stretch under the strain and strap him to a hospital bed. It is from this infirm and helpless state, that some catchy and perennial numbers trot out in his illusory spells of sweet rhythm, "Who's sorry now" Bye Bye Happiness, Hello Loneliness and There is No Business like Show Business being the popular flights among them, taking listeners down memory lane, with the best in Jazz music haunting and hovering over the light fanstically tapped sequences in glorious colour. Actor Roy Schneider has taken on many roles in his career with acclaim, but very seldom has he shone with the vigour he displays as Joe Gideon, outacting his previous ones with a brilliance that has to be seen to be believed. There is a touch of eroticism in the beaty bursts of a few numbers that are stepped to a conjugal rhythm but they are passing phases to distract from the total excellence of this quadruple Oscar winner that Columbia studios has released proudly. Jazz to this day remains a bridge builder of dance tempos, old and new and in the words of American composer John Philip Sousa "It will endure just as long as people hear it through their feet instead of their brains". The syncopating gyrations overwhelm this film to

TRIBUNE, MAY, 22, 1982

elevate it to classic proportions somewhat, making it a rare tapping experience worth going miles to view. Ceylon Theatres Ltd., deserve special praise for bringing to their screens such classy and costly films, irrespective of what awaits them businesswise at the Box Office, for it has been proved of late that risks thereare plenty to this aspect of show business, even with Oscar materials in hand.

EVERY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE (English): The tall and handsome Clint Eastwood kept his place at the top of the list in popular appeal as a Hollywood star for many years, while the kept to the Spurs in Westerns of the Dollar series, quick on the draw with scarcely a smile on his smirky countenance as he picked his foes out in one long sweep, as he blazed off the hip. A frozen Buster Keaton like look was part of his kit, which he has surprisingly shed in this film, after a few cop roles in more recent years that failed to click, even under his direction. In this Warner Brothers Production however, Clint has come into his own to recapture a winning image. Skipping and swinging from light comdey situations to hard hitting ones, he roles Phil Beddoe, a carefree truck driver, in a Tow Service, backing a punch that could collect a million dollars within minutes. His constant companions as he hits the highway are an Orang-Utan, Clyde, rather long in the tooth, but with juvenile urges and Orville (Geoffry Lewis), not so much a friend in need as a collector of the winnings in staked "street fights" whenever the kitty strikes bottom while on the run enroute. Always on the mark with his muscle bound left hooks—a treat to which when delivered—Phil's Achills sport is a dame (Sundra Locke) who leads him on for a basic need, before ditching him for another at the end of the road. Brawls there were many, and the coup de gras so full of grace, particularly when a mobike gang—the Black Widoes—cross Phil's path., to be cut down and scattered as in a Bowls game. With Clyde at the applauding end and Phil earning them to the very end, this film is certainly not one to be missed. It has certainly put Clint Eastwood back on the road after a lean spell. Follow him from now on

QUIP: "Successful film stars should never rest on their laurels, while at their peak of popularity. They will always be only good as their last films!"

JAMES N. BENEDICT.

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"It is to the credit of the people of Ceylon that during two thousand years and more they obeyed this decree and continued to pay their homage to one who was a brave man and a just and humane ruler,"

—G. P. Malalasekera in "The Pali Literature of Ceylon,"
Colombo, 1928 p. 25

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at

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with Appendices and Notes

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May 2 - 7

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA
COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-
PAPERS 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*—Silumina; *SLDP*—Sri Lankadipa; *JD*—Janadina *SU*—Sun; *DV*—Davasa; *DP*—Dinapathi *CM*—Chinthamani; *WK*—Weekend; *RR*—Riviresa; *DK*—Dinakara; *EN*—Eelanadu; *IS*—Island; *DI*—Divaina; *IDPR*—Information Dept. Press Release

SUNDAY, MAY 2: The workers red banner of solidarity fluttered high in the city as May Day dawned with its traditional pageantry—*SO*. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday spelt out the achievements of this Government with particular reference to the working class when he said that a record 1½ million unemployed in 1977 had now been reduced to 6½ lakhs thanks to the accelerated Mahaweli programme, the Free Trade Zone and giving the economy freedom to expand—*ST*. The city of Colombo was a thronging mass of humanity as workers rallied behind political parties and trade unions to celebrate another May Day. The United National Party rally at the Galle Face Green, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna rally at the Town Hall and the SLFP (S) joint opposition rally at Campbell Park drew the largest crowds with official estimates of the total participants at all rallies in Colombo placed at 500,000; police estimated that more than 30,000 people participated in the JVP procession with an equal number at the SLFP (S) procesion, while the crowd at the CP procession was estimated to be around 25,000; however, the largest crowds were gathered at the Galle Face Green where in addition to the political celebrarions, top entertainers like Indian Star Nutan performed; there, police estimated the crowd to be nearly 100,000 just before the entertainment programme started. The Defence Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 1.7 million as rewards that will lead to the arrest of the most wanted terrorists in the North. The findings of the high level Cabinet team that inquired into certain multi million rupee transactions of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research have become the focal point of attention in political circles; according to highly placed government sources, the Committee which met at the Presidential Secretariat on Thursday heard E. L. Senanayake, Minister of Agricultural Development and Research, explain allegations against him; he is learnt to have blamed his Secretary for the lapses and in turn made charges against him—*WK*. President Jayewardene's plan to find employment for 100,000 Sri Lankans

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

in the Middle East by the end of this year is likely to be stalled unless changes are made in our aviation policy, according to airline sources; this is because air transport cannot be found for persons under the present setup during a 12 months period, these sources said. While Sri Lanka registered an economic growth of 4.2 percent (GNP) in 1981 despite an adverse global economic environment, the real wages of most categories of employees declined safe for those in the un-organized sectors such as paddy cultivation and building construction; this is revealed in the Central Bank annual report for the year 1981—*IS*.

MONDAY, MAY 3: The four-member World Muslim Congress Peace Mission had met with "positive response" from a warring Iran and Iraq, the leader of the mission, Transport and Muslim Affairs Minister M. H. Mohamed said yesterday. There were no incidents reported on May Day according to reports reaching the Police Command Room from various parts of the country. A senior police official said it was one of the most peaceful May Day in the recent years—*CDN*. The oil rich Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has agreed to lead the way for other West Asian countries in specifying minimum wages and conditions of employment for Sri Lankans; according to Labour Ministry sources Sri Lanka is soon to have a bilateral agreement on labour with Saudi Arabia which will double the present salaries offered—*CDM*. The Government will shortly launch an energy conservation programme throughout the country; funds for this purpose will be drawn from the recently set up Energy for this purpose will be drawn from the recently set up Energy Conservation Fund, official sources said yesterday—*SU*. A new company is to be set up shortly to take over the General Sales Agency of British Airways presently handled by the Ceylon Hotels Corporation. The Government-owned Independent Television Network will cover the whole island soon, the Minister of State Mr. Anandatiissa de Alwis said, as a first step its range will be increased from the present limit of 30 miles radius of Colombo to bout 65 milies radius *IS*. Several Islamic countries have expressed their desire to invest in private and public sector institutions; a delegation from the Islamic Development Bank will arrive in Sri Lanka on Thursday 6th May to make investigations regarding such investments—*DP*.

TUESDAY, MAY 4: General Sepala Attygalle, Chief Co-ordinating Authority, Ministry of Defence, yesterday inaugurated the new Air Traffic Control Centre at Ratmalana airport by speaking directly to Madras Control Centre on the microwave link that has now been established between the two countries. The Colombo Metropolitan Police have decided not to prosecute over 50,000 traffic offenders nabbed during the past two years; we have a huge backlog for prosecution and we have decided to drop the minor cases where there has been no injury to persons or property a traffic police spokesman said—

CDN. A central authority with wide powers is to be set up by Government for administration and plan implementation of the country's new capital city of Jayawardenapura; legislation for the establishment of this authority is being drafted by a top level committee appointed by government recently. Pawn-brokers who charge exorbitant interest rates on the pretext that the business turnover tax has been increased by five percent, are to be prosecuted under the Pawn Brokers Ordinance. The Ministry of Defence has called for a detailed report on the heightened terrorist activity in the Northern Province last Thursday. UNESCO has reported favourably on the setting up of a non-aligned nations data bank in Colombo the Foreign Ministry is studying a synopsis of the; feasibility study on this project which has just been completed by UNESCO—*SU*. A few armed youths or those conducting politics with foreign aid cannot stop our movement, said TULF leader A. Amirthalingam addressing the TULF May Day meeting at the Jaffna Town Hall; Mr. Amirthalingam said that years ago some Tamil youths had connections with foreign countries; their aim had been to form a leftist government; when they saw that the movement was going along the wrong path, they abandoned it; he appealed to the youth not to follow a path of violence. The Tamil Eelam Liberation Front consisting of dissident TULF members has decided to function as a separate political entity; this group which had earlier played second fiddle to the TULF has now resolved to strike out on its own in view of "the TULF betrayal of the mandate given by the Tamil People", said a spokesman—*IS*. Giving evidence before the High Court Judge Mr. Tudor de Alwis yesterday, Selvarajah Yogachandran alias Kuttimani said that he did not make any statements to the police but because the police assaulted and tortured him he set his signature on certain documents handed to him by the police—*VK*. The Madurai Customs seized a very large quantity of gold and diamonds that were smuggled from Sri Lanka; in this seizure gold ingots valued at over Rs. 18 lakhs and diamonds worth over Rs. 2 lakhs were recovered; nineteen persons have been arrested in this connection; according to Sri Lankan currency the entire haul is valued at Rs. 40 lakhs—*EN*.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5: In a day of fast-breaking political developments, Agricultural Research and Development Minister, E. L. Senanayake and Health Minister Gamini Jayasuriya switched portfolios ending speculation on the outcome into the inquiry on some tender awards by the Agricultural Ministry; the amiable, smiling Health Minister, who was away at a WHO meeting in Geneva was urgently summoned to Colombo by telephone and arrived here by Swissair shortly after 8.30 a.m. yesterday. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is finalising plans to overhaul the country's telephone system at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,000 million—*CDN*. Former Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Lands and

Land Development R. K. C. de Silva has been appointed Commissioner of Elections with effect from yesterday—*SU*. A special police committee has been appointed to investigate the activities of a radical left political party; the committee which consists of intelligence personnel is headed by a Deputy Inspector General of Police; the other members are a Superintendent of Police and two ASPs—*IS*.

THURSDAY, MAY 6: The Presidential Secretariat announced yesterday that the Cabinet Sub-Committee which investigated certain tender awards by the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research had found that procedures laid down by the Cabinet had not been followed. Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne who figured largely in a dispute with Mr. E. L. Senayake the new Health Minister, resigned yesterday from the post of Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture; but he continues to be the Chairman, Agricultural Development Authority. Cabinet approved a proposal by the Minister of Finance and Planning, Mr. Ronnie de Mel, that the Development Finance Corporation of Ceylon be exempted from the Business Turnover Tax. Cabinet agreed to grant duty free rebates in regard to sales made by local manufacturers to GCEC enterprises, where proceeds are realised in foreign exchange. The Commissioner of Co-operative Development has fixed the maximum retail price of sugar at Rs. 14/20 a kilo; this follows the Rs. 1 price reduction announced by the Food Department on Tuesday—*CDN*. Four deaths from heroin were reported at the Colombo South Hospital in the past ten days; yesterday, a young Italian tourist was found dead in a guesthouse at Dehiwela; a syringe was found by his side. A special unit is to be established at the Presidential Secretariat to monitor all declaration of assets of persons elected or selected to public office and also go into complaints made by the public—*CDM*. Government has turned down a request by the Law Officers Association of the Attorney General's Department to restore the right of private practice or to pay an allowance in lieu of private and the right to appear for state corporations and statutory boards. Legislation imposing heavy penalties on employers who pay short wages to their employees was yesterday approved by Cabinet. The Government will enter into an agreement with the Government of France for a mixed credit loan not exceeding 80 million French francs (about Rs. 312 million).—*SU*.

FRIDAY, MAY 7: In a Vesak message, Prime Minister R. Premadasa said yesterday that if people cultivated good thoughts, engaged in good action and helped others, their lives would be happy. Two big pandals outside the President's House and Temple Trees will be the major Vesak attractions in Colombo this year. The Asian Development Bank and two other co-financiers have agreed to meet the cost escalation of the Lunugamvehera scheme in the Hambantota District, threatened with a break down due to lack of funds. The use of fertilizer during the

first quarter of this year declined by 20 percent— from 64,500 metric tons to 51,500 metric tons— when compared with the same period last year, Mr. Raja Kuruppu, Director of the National Fertilizer Secretariat said yesterday—*CDN*. Today is Vesak Full Moon Poya Day; mass sil campaigns pinkamas and danselas will be held throughout the island to commemorate the Birth, Enlightenment and Parinibbhana (death) of Lord Buddha. People of all faiths and nationalities should unite under one banner in conducting religious activities and the aim of the government is also to establish peace and harmony among people of all faiths and nationalities; so observed President J. R. Jayewardene addressing a mass public meeting held near the Bo-Tree junction, Pettah yesterday—*CDM*. A joint stock company to undertake construction contracts abroad is to be floated by the State Engineering Corporation shortly; the company, working independently of the SEC, will chiefly carry out construction and consultancy work in West Asian countries. Students of Colombo University have forcibly "taken over the Queen's Club building at Bauddahaloka Mawatha and about eighty have been using it as their hostel since Tuesday; police moved in on Wednesday and removed their bedding and other belongings which students had installed with in the building, but students still claim to possess the keys. India and Sri Lanka will set up joint heavy industrial projects with technical and financial collaboration provided by Indian entrepreneurs officials said—*SU*. Puppet shows, dramas and folk dances will not be permitted on Wesak Day unless the script is approved by the Public Performance Board; this decision has been taken with a view to preventing political themes being depicted on this day. The Lanka Jathika Estate Workers Union and the Ceylon Workers' Congress which have a joint membership of over seven lakhs of estate workers are opposed to the two-day token strike planned for May 11 and 12 by seven Unions which command less than five percent of the estate labour force. There will be ten pandals for Wesak in Colombo this week—*IS*. The private sector too may be granted approval to run institutions for training nurses; and Health Ministry is considering a scheme in this connection—*DP*.



WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

May 1 - 7

ASIA

INDIA: Members of the Indian Ananda Marg in Bangkok blamed the Marxist Government for the killing of its members (17) in Calcutta. Exiled Iranian Opposition leader Rajavi appealed to the Indian Premier not to visit Iran. Rajavi expressed the view

that Iranian authorities may use her prestige and that of her late father for propaganda purposes. **INDONESIA:** According to the provisional results of the parliamentary elections announced President Suharto's ruling Golkar Party has now an overwhelming victory. It was considered to be a massive mandate for the Suharto Government to continue its ambitious development programme. **IRAQ:** Fierce battles were fought between Iraqi and Iranian forces and Iraqi forces claimed that in Khurzesan there were several dead bodies (Iranian) awaiting burial. **ISRAEL:** Israel will not sell any arms to Argentina while it was in conflict with Britain over Falkland Islands. Premier Menachem Begin said that Israel will not participate in any further talks on Palestinian autonomy talks unless Cairo agrees to have discussions in Jerusalem.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA: The meeting held between South African Premier P. W. Botha and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda was considered to be a diplomatic coup effected by the former. The subject of the discussion appears to have included Namibia and the release of Namibian Nationalist Herman Toive who is serving life sentence in Robben Island. Col. Hoare, one of the defendants in the Seychelles Coup case, told the Court that CIA, Kenyan and South African governments were aware of the attempts and in fact the South African Defence service provided the mercenaries with arms. **ALGERIA:** Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Benyahia died in a plane crash near the Turkish Iranian border. **EGYPT:** King Hussein of Jordan said that some Arab countries were considering how to invite Egypt for a Pan-Arab meeting. There were speculations that the Foreign Minister of Morocco M Hamed Boucetha may visit Cairo in the course of his tour of Arab countries.

EUROPE

UNITED KINGDOM: British war planes went into action and bombed the main airstrip of the Falkland Islands. Britain maintained that it was done in self-defence under the UN charter. British opposition parties appeared to support the government's measure in its initial reactions to British attack on the Falkland Islands. Argentina jammed BBC's Spanish broadcasts of South Africa. The loss of British destroyer Sheffield may bring increased pressure on Premier Thatcher to look for diplomatic solutions to the crisis. European allies of Britain feel that Western interests in Latin America may get affected if the fighting continued further. Britain was anxious to keep the support of the EEC sanctions imposed against Argentina. **WEST GERMANY:** Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was highly critical of the unilateral stand taken by Britain in the Falkland issue. He was doubtful whether British Premier Mrs. Thatcher was ever prepared

for a peaceful solution and her behaviour was akin to a domestication of the issue like the methods of the 19th century. **SOVIET UNION:** Soviet Cultural Ministry has come strongly against the growing influence of Western style pop-culture among the young musicians. President Brezhnev criticised Britain and the US for their respective part in the Falkland Islands crisis. He accused Britain of flouting the norms of modern day diplomacy and international relations. He also said that the US was trying to make the dispute expand its influence in South America. May Day slogans in Moscow denounced the use of chemical weapons, western arms strategy and called for peace. Moscow based NATO Ambassadors and western countries boycotted the official parade as a protest against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. **YUGOSLAVIA:** Yugoslavia, one of the pioneers of the Non-aligned Movement called for the end of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. The war was not only damaging the two countries but also the Non-aligned Movement.

AMERICA

ARGENTINA: Argentina accused British attack of Falkland Islands a flagrant violation of the UN resolution 502 and said that this incident made Britain as the aggressor. Latin American countries, Panama and Venezuela condemned Britain for its military action and blamed US for the battle. Argentina confirmed that its warship *Begrano* was sunk. As a retaliation Argentine fighter bomber sank a British destroyer *Sheffield*. Nearly 30 sailors died. Argentina had told the UN Secretary General that it was prepared to negotiate a peaceful solution to the Falkland crisis. **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:** President Reagan said that if the Soviet Union become involved in the Falkland Islands issue it would complicate matters. British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym said that if Argentina observed and kept away from the 200 mile exclusion zone then there would not be any further clashes. Secretary of State Haig said that Argentina had rejected a seven-point peace formula which included cessation of hostilities, withdrawal of both Argentine and British forces from Falkland Islands, establishment of a joint US British-Argentine interim authority and cease sanctions. **EL SALVADOR:** Alvaro Mangna, the newly elected President, told the 60 Assembly Deputies that he would work to end the political violence. President Mangna told a press conference that he was considering granting an amnesty to leftist guerillas. But the guerillas have vowed to fight and it was unlikely that they will respond to any amnesty. **UNITED NATIONS:** Argentina lost its second largest warship *General Belgrano* when it was sunk by British submarines. Nearly 500 Argentine troops appear to have perished in the incident. UN Secretary General De Cueller has sent out peace proposals to Britain and Argentina; the precise nature of the proposals were not known.

THE FOREIGN SCENE

VOA ON

Indo-China Refugees

The United States has set stricter requirements for the resettlement of Indo-China refugees. The world reacted with shock and compassion to the exodus of more than one million people following the Communist take over of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam in 1975. Within a few years refugee camps in South-East Asia were overflowing and in 1979, a special conference in Geneva laid plans for the orderly resettlement of the refugees. Since then some 600,000 Indo-Chinese refugees have been resettled in the United States, France, Canada and Australia have also admitted thousands. Now the United States has announced that refugees arriving in camps in South East Asia after April 13 will no longer be considered for resettlement in the United States unless they can demonstrate close links with America. This means either that they have close relations in the United States, that they worked at the time for the US government—or that they worked for one of the pre-communist governments and now have reason to fear persecution. This step is being taken with the aim of discouraging the flight of Indo-Chinese who expose themselves to many dangers and eventually face a long period of hardship in crowded refugee camps. Especially poignant is the case of the Vietnamese who flee in boats and risk drowning or savage attacks by pirates. It is hoped that any Vietnamese wishing to emigrate will do so legally, through the orderly departures program. The Hanoi Government can do much to alleviate the refugee situation by cooperating in this program. The new US rules should reduce the influx of refugees into Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Hongkong. These countries have made an extraordinary effort to cope with the problem of Indo-Chinese refugees. But ultimately, the problem of refugees is best dealt with at the source.—VOA/USICA.

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REAGAN PLAN

For S.T.A.R.T.

Washington, May 5: President Reagan has outlined proposals for reducing long-range nuclear missiles at the next round of US-Soviet arms control

talks. Reagan wants to cut the World's most dangerous weapons—intercontinental ballistic missile warheads—by at least one-third as quickly as possible. And he hopes the Soviet Union will join in START (the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) by the end of June. Reagan's proposals outlined in a speech May 9 to graduating students at his Alma Mater in Illinois, are the results of long hard study within his administration. Reagan has been an opponent of the 1979 SALT II treaty, which the United States has not ratified, criticizing that treaty as too favourable to Moscow. Reagan has been seeking arrangements that will be verifiable, equitable and militarily significant. And this is what puts the focus on ballistic missiles.

American experts see them as the greatest nuclear danger to peace. In particular, they note that the Soviet Union's many heavy land-based missiles, armed with multiple warheads, are now capable of striking with far greater accuracy than earlier weapons. That means these rockets conceivably could be used in an attempt to wipe out America's land-based missiles in a surprise attack. The possibility alone is dangerous; it raises prospects of decisions about defence and retaliation that might have to be made in a matter of minutes. America's own land-based missiles do not pose the same threat to the Soviet Union, since they are smaller weapons with fewer warheads. And it is the inequality, as well as the instability, of the present circumstance that Reagan wants to correct. His plan calls for a reduction of at least one-third in ballistic missile warheads as the first phase of the START negotiations. The ceilings for these warheads are to be equal, with no more than one-half the remaining forces to be land-based. In a second phase, the United States will seek equal limits on other elements of the strategic nuclear forces of the two nations. Here, Reagan wants limits on Ballistic missile throw-weight—that is, the total weight a rocket can deliver to its target. All this will mean a substantial change in arms control methods—since the United States is now seeking more than the simple limit on the numbers of missiles and bombers used in past treaties. Verification, an absolute necessity, will become an important part of the negotiation. And the approach calls for significant cuts on both sides, for America as well as for the Soviet Union. Reagan believes the Soviet people and Soviet leaders with their memory of war's devastation, have an over-riding interest in preventing the use of nuclear weapons. The United States intends to negotiate seriously and in good faith in the coming talks with careful consideration of Soviet proposals. It Moscow approaches the bargaining in the same spirit, there is a good possibility of an enduring agreement to reduce weapons, curb the arms race and open the way for better relations in the future.—VOA/USICA.

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TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

INTERVIEW

Paul Warnke

Bona, April 20: During the 15 months in office the Reagan government has made a whole number of irresponsible pronouncements, said former director of the American Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Paul Warnke in an interview to the West German magazine *Der Spiegel*. He recalled the pronouncements on "a limited nuclear war", a possibility of "a preventive nuclear strike", the notorious allegation that the United States can, possibly, win a nuclear war, and broad civil defence plans. All this made the American public fearful. Touching upon the Reagan conception that America should, above all, come up with the Soviet Union in all spheres of nuclear armaments before it will be able to conduct negotiations, Warnke said that underlying that conception was the wrong conclusion that the United States was inferior to the Soviet Union in the ability of conducting a strategic nuclear war.

This is just at variance with reality said Warnke. When the US President said that the Soviet Union had a "certain superiority" he was fundamentally wrong. The facts are the following: if now with the help of some magic wand we could stop the build-up of nuclear armaments, we would thus attain a far greater security. No matter what quantity of armaments the United States produces, the Soviet Union is able to produce as much, and it will continue doing so. How can the United States expect the Soviet Union to calmly look at the United States arming, without arming itself? And how can the United States expect the Soviet Union to disarm itself, with out the United States disarming? Answering the question if one can in general describe the President's conception as freezing, or, may be, this is, as Senator Kennedy said, "imaginary disarmament", Paul Warnke said: This is not at all an end to the armament, this is not freezing. This conception, on the contrary, gives the United States as a possibility to continue arming itself in all programs, unhindered..."

In Paul Warnke's opinion the Administration erroneously believes that the continuous build-up of the American nuclear arsenal will make the Soviet Union draw the conclusion that it is unable to keep in step with the United States and, therefore, it should drop the game. The Soviet Union is able to go step in step with the United States, as long as it needs this. This means that the United States heightens the threat to itself, as long as the United States is building up its nuclear arsenal. Speaking of the American medium-range weapons in Europe Paul Warnke said: We do not need these 572 new missiles directed at the same targets as part of our 10,000 strategic warheads. When asked whether he believed that the Russians were interested in the reduction

13

of nuclear weapons, Paul Warnke said: They are interested, and very much. Paul Warnke described as irresponsible Reagan's statement that the "West is inferior to the East". Warnke said he thought that the President thereby sought to cut the ground from under the peace movement, but Warnke said, the President attained the opposite results. From 60 to 70 per cent of the Americans favour an end to the nuclear arms race.

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A MIGHTY WAVE

For Peace

By Igor Melnikov

Moscow, April 20: If one plots the routes of peace marches held in the last few days on the map of Western Europe, it will be covered with thick shading. The columns which comprised more than half a million of residents of the Federal Republic of Germany moved from the neighbouring towns to Dortmund, Stuttgart and Nuremberg. It is symptomatic that the list of towns and townships, where peace marches and rallies took place, given in the West German newspaper *Unsere Zeit*, has taken two pages. A resolute "NO" has resounded in West Germany to new US medium-range nuclear missiles, and a firm "Yes" to disarmament, as well as the demand to break the vicious circle of "rearmament" and "super-armaments" being created by Washington and NATO. The distribution and mass scale of the peace marches convince one that the anti-war movement, as one of the speakers at a meeting in Frankfurt on Main put it, has assumed the quality of "a political force all realistically-minded persons throughout the world have to reckon with". London, Glasgow, Manchester and other British cities have described the marches held there as a stage in preparations for a nationwide demonstration of the peace forces. A slogan, "For a Nuclear-Free Zone in the North", is heard from Scandinavia. Appeals for disarmament are being made by peace champions in France, Italy, Belgium, Greece, Switzerland and other countries. News is coming on the development of anti-war movements on other continents, too. April 10, when thousands of Americans marched through the streets of Chicago, protesting against the suicidal policy of the Reagan Administration for building up nuclear-missile arsenals, has marked a new stage in the offensive of peace forces in the USA. There is no task more important now in the world than that of removing the danger of war. In the first place, nuclear war. And if the ruling circles of the USA and the NATO leaders demonstrate their unwillingness to reckon with the new peaceful initiatives of the USSR, the millions of peace champions warmly support these proposals—APN.

FALKLANDS

14

TRIBUNE AGRICULTURAL DIGEST

AVOCADO—2

Cultivation & Care

In Queensland, it is important to maintain adequate amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium and zinc in the soil at all times. The amount of fertilizer to apply in a particular situation will depend on the variety, the soil type and cropping history. The following is a guide to fertilizer schedule for trees of various ages. TREES UP TO 12 YEARS. Apply 50g nitrogen, 23g phosphorus and 62g potassium per tree for each year of age. This is equivalent to 400 g of a NPK mixture with a formula approximating 12: 6: 16. MANURE TREES. Apply 620g nitrogen, 290g phosphorus, 780g potassium per tree per year. This is equivalent to 5 kg. of NPK mixture with a formula approximating 12: 6: 16. The annual fertilizer ration should be split into two applications. The first is applied before bud movement in winter to stimulate growth and flowering, and the second in mid to late summer for first filling and maintenance of tree vigour. Fertilizer should not be applied during the flowering period as flower drop and reduced fruit set may result.

THE AVOCADO TREE will not tolerate excessive amounts of chloride and for this reason, the potassium in the fertilizer should be present in the sulphate form. Furthermore, it is undesirable to have all of the nitrogen present as sulphate of ammonia because of the acidifying effect on the soil. Zinc deficiency occurs commonly in avocado orchards in south-east Queensland. The symptoms of zinc deficiency are interveinal yellowing and small leaves crowded close together on the terminal growth. The deficiency can be corrected with a zinc sulphate spray containing 100g of 23% zinc sulphate heptahydrate) in 100 litres of water. Sprays are normally applied in the spring. In Queensland, the avocado appears to require a pH between 6.9 and 7.0 for satisfactory growth. Lime or dolomite should be applied when a soil test shows that it is necessary.

Irrigation: There are certain periods in the development of the avocado crop when an adequate supply of water should be available to the trees. To achieve the best fruit set, soil moisture must be sufficient for the tree just before flowering, after fruit set and again during fruit filling in early summer. The amount of water to apply to each irrigation and the frequency of

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

irrigation will depend on the soil type, permeability, depth of rooting and age of tree. As a general guide, a mature tree should receive from 50 to 70m per application. Excessive irrigation should be avoided as it can induce root rot.

Harvesting: It is difficult to determine the correct stage of maturity at which to harvest avocados. Varieties that are dark-skinned when mature develop their full colour as they ripen, but the rest exhibit only a slight tinge of yellow as a background colour in the green skin and the fruit stalk. Skill in determining maturity is necessary, the usual criteria being the known time of cropping for the variety, fruit size and a dulling of the surface gloss on the skin. In Queensland an oil content of 15% is prescribed within the period 1 January to 30 April as a minimum standard for fruit maturity in the varieties Fuerte, Edranol, Zutano and Rincon, and at least 10% in all other varieties.

The times of harvesting of the more important varieties are:

Variety	Coastal Areas	Tablelands
Fuerte	April - July	June - September
Edranol	May - July	June - August
Rincon	June - August	August - September
Sharwil	June - September	September - October
Hazzard	July - August	August - September
Nabal	August - September	September - October
Hass	August - October	October - December
Wurtz	August - September	October - November

Avocados should never be pulled from the tree, as damage at the stem end makes the entry of decay organisms more likely. The fruit should be double-cut with round-nosed clippers, leaving a very short stub on the stalk end. As the skin is easily bruised, avocados require careful handling. The age at which avocado trees come into bearing depends on the variety. A commercial crop from some varieties may be expected by the third or fourth year. Annual returns are difficult to assess because of the pronounced tendency towards alternate bearing. A mature tree may bear up to 40 cartons of fruit in a good season.

Marketing: Avocados are packed in cartons containing a single layer of fruit which is usually wrapped to reduce in transit. The container measures 450mm long x 290mm wide x 90mm deep.

The word "avocado or the abbreviation AVO and the name of the variety or in the case of an unnamed variety, the word seedling should appear on the container. In addition, the size or count of the fruit contained in the carton should also be shown.

Concluded.

FENUGREEK—ULUHAL OR VENTHAYAM

Food And Contraceptive

By Paul Lees

The mammoth task of feeding an upward-spiralling world population continually encourages agricultural researchers to investigate the latent potential of many obscure crops. This vital task has now highlighted the contribution that one plant in particular could play in solving several of man's basic problems. The plant in question is fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*), an annual legume traditionally grown on a modest scale in Mediterranean, Middle and Far Eastern countries. Fenugreek is an ancient crop and records indicate that its widespread cultivation was promoted by the Romans, who found it a valuable feed for their horses. Providing food for a growing population is a major priority but so is controlling the actual number of people who will need feeding. It is here that fenugreek is unique—this plant has the ability to help us achieve both these ends and provide other benefits at the same time. It was due to fears about escalating birth rates that fenugreek originally came under the agricultural researchers spotlight. *The problem was that the usual source of steroids for the oral contraceptive tablet had been the wild Mexican yam. Unfortunately, the collection of tubers in the rainforest is a haphazard affair and output was not keeping pace with demand. The most obvious solution was to farm these yams on a commercial scale but the scheme failed because the vines need an extensive and expensive support system and worst of all, it takes four to five years before diosgenin (the raw steroid that the medical companies need) can be extracted and processed. Nobody wanted to tie up such a fundamental resource as land for that length of time so the search for an alternative source of diosgenin began.*

A BRITISH UNIVERSITY identified fenugreek as the ideal plant because unlike the Mexican yam it was an annual. Even more importantly, it offered much greater flexibility when cultivated on a commercial scale—so much that many crop and livestock farmers will soon be growing it for purposes other than seed for steroid extraction. All the pioneering work on fenugreek was undertaken by Dr. Roland Hardman at the University of Bath and he has spent 20 years selecting and breeding a new range of improved varieties. The first three varieties called Barbara, Paul and Margaret, are now ready for commercialisation and seed is being multiplied in Israel. Several other varieties are in the pipeline awaiting final agronomic evaluation. As far as potential growers are concerned, fenugreek's first advantage is that since it is a legume, it is able to fix its own nitrogen. Plants which are

able to produce nitrogen for the benefit of companion or following crops in addition to supplying their own needs will increase in value as nitrogen becomes more expensive. It is thought that each year fenugreek will fix about 283 kg/ha of nitrogen. Fenugreek's flexibility on the farm makes it worth exploiting in world agriculture. Take the livestock farmer looking for a high protein forage crop which is easy to grow. Field scale trials in England show that fenugreek can be drilled in the early spring and should be ready for cutting 21 weeks later. Experiments are continuing on the feasibility of autumn sowing using new varieties have been identified as having good winter hardiness.

WITH THE PURE-SOWN STAND of fenugreek the aim would be to produce around 12.5 ton/ha of dry matter with a digestibility value of 59. The crude protein of such a forage would be between 13 to 16 percent according to the latest European trial results. Another alternative—sowing a mixture of fenugreek and short term grass—also looks promising in terms of yield, protein content and digestibility. It has been suggested that fenugreek could be grazed direct instead of being cut for silage, or hay, but until more data is available on the aspect of bloating, all growers must proceed with caution. Fenugreek may contain bloat-free tannins, similar to those in sainfoin and one or two other forage legumes, but this has not yet been proved. Also, it is vital to stress that the leaves or seeds of the crop will not cause livestock infertility because the diosgenin needs complex chemical manipulation before the contraceptive properties are expressed. **If fenugreek is grown for gain by livestock or crop farmers there are several possible outlets for the produce**

On all-crop farms the grain could be sold to animal feed compounders as a rich source of crude protein (20 to 35 percent) whereas on livestock units part or all of the tonnage may be retained for home formulated and mixed feeds. International pharmaceutical companies may eventually be major buyers of the grain for diosgenin extraction. This would make fenugreek a very profitable cash break between cereals. As a bonus, a number of by-products may be obtained when the grain is processed, including edible vegetable oil, a gum and an oleo-resin that is in great demand for flavouring convenience foods for humans and certain types of feed-stuffs for animals.

IT IS ALSO INTERESTING to note that fenugreek seeds can be roasted to make an acceptable coffee substitute and in the Middle East the ground meal has been used in bread making. In parts of India the plant has been prized as a vegetable for human consumption and the seeds are a popular ingredient of curry powders. Crops grown for grain need to be either windrowed or desiccated, to even out ripening, and combined direct. In the field, Dr. Hardman's new varieties have a potential grain

yield of 3.6 tons/ha at 10 percent moisture although in plot trials this figure has been considerably exceeded. The oil content of the grain would range between 7 and 8 percent and the D value should approach 90. Grain crops can be cut within five months after sowing in temperature regions and after just three to four months in warmer climates, with two crops a year possible in some areas.

On farms in the UK fenugreek is being considered as a good break between cereals and as an annual replacement for the perennial alfalfa. It is not difficult to grow in either situation and does not demand much in the way of inputs. Fenugreek thrives on a wide range of soil types and will only require a 22 kg/ha dressing of nitrogen at sowing to encourage early growth before the nitrogen fixing nodules are functioning. A 62 kg/ha dressing of phosphate and potash is sufficient but the soil must not be starved of boron. Because fenugreek is extremely palatable to rabbits and birds, suitable precautions may have to be taken in "high risk" areas. Sowing rates of 18 kg/ha of inoculated seed for grain and 22 kg/ha for forage crops is thought to be sufficient and there are a number of chemicals available for pre or post-emergent weed control. The new varieties introduced by Dr. Hardman appear to be resistant to aphids and weevils and they have all been selected from disease-free lines to reduce pesticide requirements. It is important to remember that the varieties of fenugreek currently being grown in such countries as China, Turkey, Morocco, India and Greece are unimproved types. Dr. Hardman collected 400 of these from all over the world when he started his long term research program and his high yielding, disease resistant winter hardy varieties are purpose bred for modern agriculture. One other characteristic separates the new varieties from the old ones—the former all have a higher concentration of diosgenin in the grain.

In 1980 and this year seed has been in short supply but the position is now improving slowly. The UK's Marketing Agency for State Bred plant varieties, the National Seed Development Organisation, will be able to advise the situation for 1982 and beyond and to give the latest guidelines on how to cultivate the crop in various countries. Dr. Hardman is now convinced that fenugreek is one of the most exciting and valuable crops to be developed in recent years. "It is doubtful if any other crop, while saving energy, has such potential for making a major contribution to the world's food supply, health and population control, he concluded.—With acknowledgements to *World Farming*, Sept./Oct. 1981.

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JANATHA ESTATES DEVELOPMENT BOARD

	1976 April/Dec. (9 mths)	1977 Jan/Dec.	1978 Jan/Dec.	1979 Jan/Dec.	1980 Jan/Dec.
1. Approximate Revenue to Govt. as Export Duty from J.E.D.B. produce					
Tea Rs. in million	49.5 M.	211.3 M.	1,159.8 M.	998.8 M.	780.1 M.
Rubber "	15.2 M.	34.5 M.	149.5 M.	185.2 M.	241.5 M.
Total "	64.7 M.	245.8 M.	1,309.3 M.	1,184.0M.	1,021.6 M.
2. Exports Earnings to Sri Lanka from J.E.D.B. produce					
Tea Rs. in million	602.0 M.	1,283.3 M.	2,485.6 M.	2,293.8 M.	2,585.6 M.
Rubber "	47.3 M.	93.6 M.	284.4 M.	356.9 M.	444.4 M.
Coconut "	—	—	13.3 M.	22.4 M.	20.1 M.
Total "	649.3 M.	1,376.9 M.	2,783.3 M.	2,673.1M.	30,50.1 M.
Total export earning of Sri Lanka from all products Rs. in million	4,815 M.	6,638 M.	13,206 M.	15,273 M.	17,273 M.
3. J.E.D.B. Share of Total Export earnings of Sri Lanka	13.5%	20.7%	21.1%	17.5%	17.7%

FOR THE SOIL

Earthworm Tillage

WE WILL DEFINE "EARTHWORM TILLAGE" as a general term covering methods adopted to encourage the maximum development of native earthworm population in the land. And as a practical part of earthworm tillage methods, we would include intensive propagation of earthworms for "seeding" the land with egg capsules to accelerate the development of a numerous worm population in the shortest possible time, but also as a method for utilizing every possible organic waste material in building topsoil to be used as a topdressing in garden, orchard and farm. In our chapter on "My Grandfather's Earthworm Farm", the methods described would be earthworm tillage. We would say that the book, "Plowman's Folly" by Edward H. Faulkner, is primarily an able discussion of earthwork tillage. In fact, the remarkable results reported in Mr. Faulkner's able book we would attribute to the fauna of the soil, with very great emphasis placed on the earthworm population. However the question is not "To plow or not to plow". We will not enter that controversial field. We will advise every student of earthworm culture to read carefully Plowman's Folly, as well as everything else he can find on organic methods. It is all instruction in earthworm tillage and earthworm culture. Once the basic principles are grasped, a new world of possibilities and instruction is revealed for study and experimentation.

We will also recommend as possible the most important book on basic organic methods, Sir Albert Howard's "An Agricultural Testament". If we were

recommending on single book from all books on the subject for earthworm students, we could say, "Read An Agricultural Testament. However, once one has started on a study of organic methods, as contrasted with the strictly "chemical school of thought, the sources of recorded information are almost endless, with the soil itself, as a fascinating subject for practical experimentation and never-failing interest. As an outstanding example of 'what we mean by "earthworm tillage" showing the tremendous increase in food production that may take place through use of such methods, we reproduce an article which appeared in the February (1945) issue of Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, under the title, "Earthworms, 150,000 to the Acre". This report on the farming methods and results obtained by Mr. Christopher Gallup is a coroboration of the methods which we described in the chapter on "My Grandfather's Earthworm Farm", but brought down to modern farm with modern machinery. Incidentally, we have been in correspondence with Mr. Gallup. He is an energetic aggressive student of modern methods and a successful farmer. In connection with the story of his farm, we will quote a few lines from a letter received from him under date of April 18, 1945.... "When we used to get 70 bushel baskets of corn per acre, the borers just raised Cain with it; but when our yield had been stepped up to 196 baskets per acre, the borers practically dropped out of the picture. In another letter from Mr. Gallup under date of June 3, 1945, he remarks.... "Saturday we finished putting 37 truck loads of hay into the barn from two fields that produced only 21 truck loads last year. No manure or fertilizer was used in making the difference.—Extract from book "Harnessing The Earthworm."

Pesticide in Food

Pesticide contamination in food is growing at such an alarming rate that an Indian may be taking 0.2664 mg. of DDT along with every meal. Studies at the Indian Toxicological Research Centre (ITRC) in Lucknow have revealed the presence of DDT residues not only in circulating blood but also in breast milk of mothers and in cord blood collected after child birth suggesting the passage of DDT to the foetus. ITRC warns that DDT in food could be the cause of diseases like hepatitis, cardiovascular disorders, cancer and congenital malformation of foetus. It is also believed that DDT may promote initiation of premature labour and abortion among pregnant women, allergy, gastro-intestinal troubles and sometimes even impotence and insanity. Analysis of foodstuffs sold in different parts of the country has shown pesticide contamination in virtually everything that is consumed: cereals, pulses, flour, oil, vegetables, fruits, milk, butter, eggs, fish and meat. The samples were collected from farmers, houses, Food Corporation of India godowns and markets of Hyderabad, Delhi, Mysore, Ludhiana and Pantnagar. Mixing food grains with BHC or DDT is a common practice in village around Hapur (UP) and Delhi.

Pesticide residues were very high in mustard oil, sesamum oil and coconut oil. All the 300 samples of leafy vegetables collected in Mysore contained excessive residues of BHC. Residues on fruits were found in samples from Hyderabad where 82 percent of grape samples were found contaminated with malathion, parathion and methylparathion. Most alarming is the situation with milk and milk products. Of the 38 milk samples, 34 contained DDT while all the 18 butter samples from Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Gujarat were contaminated with pesticides. In 90 percent of the samples the amount of DDT exceeded the tolerance limits set by the World Health Organisation, says ITRC—PTI Science Service.



DANGER OF

Disappearing Plants

What's the difference between the potato resources of the Lake Titicaca region in Peru-Bolivia and Bolivia's tin mines? Not much, according to FAO's 1979 Conference plenary chairman, Dr. Swaminathan, the region's

invaluable potato germplasm would soon disappear, as would the rubber diversity important to Malaysia and Sri Lanka and the botanical treasures of the Amazon basin. The possible "non-renewableness" of renewable resources is a relatively new concept outside of panda bears and seals. Those nations which count among their treasures large underground stockpiles of tin, nickel, bauxite, chrome or coal have long been granted a certain chauvinism over their accidental good fortune. This was based on the theoretical understanding that the resources were non-renewable and there was very little other countries could do about it. Only romantic idealists dared to suggest that the holders of such mineral wealth bear a larger custodial burden on behalf of the common global heritage.

Yet the historic view of the world's botanical resources has always been different. Living plants can multiply and can, therefore, be made available to all. The sheer diversity of living plants has also mitigated against floral chauvinism. There are 300,000 higher-order plants. There are at least a hundred thousand rice cultivars and more than a quarter of a million wheat cultivars. Compare this bargaining position to the three kinds of bauxite or coal or the geographically centralised ore bodies of gold and chrome. Also, you do not have to drill for flowers. Finally, the fact that the overwhelming majority of nature's botanical bounty lies in the tropical and subtropical areas of the Third World has allowed the North to achieve a level of high minded idealism about plant germplasm. The idealism may be a trifle myopic. Also essential to world food security are soil and water. Like seeds, soil and water can be in scarce supply and nature's distribution of them has been sometimes tragically selective. Developed countries have shown no inclination to treat their surplus of rich soil as a part of our common global heritage. Despite the best efforts of UNESCO, UNEP and many others, the control of river basins is still highly national and those blessed with surpluses have rarely shown an inclination to share this semi-renewable resource with others.

Whenever the call for the "full and free exchange of germplasm grows loud—and when the chorus is joined by international companies—there is good reason to suspect trouble. The North has already permitted a number of exceptions to the rule of free exchange. Example: many European companies have suggested that they would be willing to store material in public gene banks only if a five or ten year "embargo" on the exchange of the material were guaranteed. Examples: the public gene bank in Dublin has declared that only other states with plant patent legislation may have access to its stored seeds and then with certain limitations. Example: European governments have admitted that they will not force private firms to make their germplasm resources available although legislative means could

be found to accomplish this. Example: plant patents allow patent-holders to restrict access to varieties. At least in the long run, the Third World can bargain from a position of strength. The North needs the botanical wealth of the South. Perhaps the world's last free lunch may be over.—*Development Forum*, March, 1982.

TRIBUNE MAHAWELI FORUM

Ecological Disaster?

WARNINGS HAVE BEEN ISSUED THAT, UNLESS THE GREATEST CARE IS TAKEN, THE ENTIRE MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT AREA MAY BECOME AN ECOLOGICAL DISASTER WITHIN A SHORT TIME. IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT THAT INSTEAD OF THE WATERSHED AND HIGH MONTANE AREAS OF THE UPPER REACHES OF THE MAHAWELI BEING FORESTED, THEY ARE NOW EITHER IN TEA OR HAD BECOME TREELESS PATNA LAND. SOIL EROSION AND THE QUICK RUN-OFF OF WATER, IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT, WILL MAKE THE ACCELERATED MAHAWELI SCHEME A FAILURE EVEN BEFORE IT BECOMES OPERATIONAL.

THE RULERS OF SRI LANKA IN ANCIENT TIMES HAD KEPT THE HILLY PLATEAUX IN THICK FOREST IN ORDER TO DEVELOP THE AGRICULTURAL CIVILISATION OF THE PLAINS. EVER SINCE THE HILLS WERE OPENED UP FOR COFFEE AND TEA, THIS SILTING OF THE TANKS AND THE RECURRENT FLOODING IN THE HILLS AND THE PLAINS HAD BEGUN. AND WITH THE CUTTING DOWN OF THE FOREST COVER FOR TIMBER, THE RAINFALL CYCLES HAD ALSO BECOME DESTABILISED.

BELOW WE PUBLISH EXTRACTS FROM AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS SUBJECT. COMMENTS ARE INVITED FOR PUBLICATION—*Editor*.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The need for an in-depth study of possible adverse impact on the country's eco-system by the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Programme was realised at an early stage and an agreement was entered into with the USAID for a study to be carried out by a US firm of consultants. Its final report was issued in December 1980. The environmental impact of the development of reservoirs and the downstream development has been studied and reported on. This study has indicated that there is no adverse impact

TRIBUNE MAY 22, 1982

in the upper catchment area. The upper catchment area consists of well-managed plantations, forests and badly-managed or misused land.

There has, however, been a considerable reduction of forest area over the last 15 to 20 years. As a result there is heavy erosion, specially in the badly managed and neglected lands but the sediment load from the catchment area is not of such a volume as to affect the functioning of reservoirs over a long period. However, remedial action by development of forestry in the catchment areas, specially along mountain ridges and steep slopes, the development of fuel-wood plantations and engineering structures where necessary to prevent erosion, have to be adopted. The development of the downstream area while not causing serious problems of erosion considerably reduces the forest cover and wildlife habitats. Remedial measures are necessary by way of forest plantations and fuel-wood plantations as well as extension of wildlife reserves to compensate for the areas taken up for development.

Several recommendations have been made by the consultants on the forestry and wildlife reserves and these are receiving the attention of the Government. The quality of the water is suitable for irrigation and drinking purposes and no serious problems are anticipated. The construction of the reservoirs will reduce the marshy areas in the flat plains (villus). The movement of a large number of settlers and supporting personnel in to the area will have its social and economic impact. Continued irrigation will have its attendant health problems due to water-borne diseases and the use of agro-chemicals and fertilizers will affect the quality of return flows. Remedial measures have been recommended by the consultants and these are receiving attention.

PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT

During the year 1981, settlement work was limited to System H (Kalawewa) and System C (Uihitiya). It was in these Systems that physical infrastructure development had progressed sufficiently for new farmer families to be settled. Settlement planning was being done in System B (Maduru Oya) and System G (Elahera), and the Mahaweli Authority also associated itself with the feasibility studies of System A.

System H: as at the end of December 1980, 20 756 families had been settled and by the end of 1981, the total number settled would be 22,000, leaving about 500 families to be settled in 1982; with that the settlement programme in System H would be completed. Settlement activity during the year 1981 was confined to H4 (Eppawela-Thambuttegama) and H5 (Nochchiyagama) areas. During the year, 3,610 hectares (9,027 acres) needed jungle clearing, 7,745 hectares (19,362 acres) levelling,

3,925 hectares (9,812 acres) bund marking and 4,533 hectares (11,333 acres) ploughing. All clearing and levelling work was completed, bund marking done in 2,400 hectares (6,000 acres) and 1,600 hectares (4,000 acres) ploughed. Production support services and community services were provided on a planned basis. A total of 15,913 hectares (39,783 acres) were cultivated in the newly developed H1, 2, 7, 4, and 5 areas in Maha 1980/81. The yields recorded were 1.7/86 (H1-2-7), 2.1/106 (H9), 2.0/98 (H4) and 2.2/109 (H5) tonnes-bushels per hectare/acre. In Yala 6,937 hectares (17,093 acres) were cultivated in paddy and 2,634 hectares (6,584 acres) in other field crops; in addition rainfed gingelly cultivation amounted to 1,436 hectares (3,591 acres).

System C: As at the end of 1980, 1,398 farmers had been taken in as worker-settlers. During the year, all of them were shown their individual hamlet plots and assistance was provided for housing. The concept of worker-settler which was first introduced in this System was continued through 1981 and the target for 1981 was 2,100 farmers of whom 1,640 have been settled as at the end of August 1981. The target would be reached before the end of this year. Settlement activity was centred in Zone 2. It is planned to take up Zone 3 for development in 1982. On-farm development work has commenced early in the year. The target for the year was 600 hectares (1,500 acres) out of which 50% had been completed as at the end of August 1981.

System G: A project study report on System G which was made by FAO-UNDP in 1979 was taken up for implementation in June 1981. It was decided to commence work with the Department of Irrigation as the construction agency. In view of the period that had lapsed since the preparation of the report, it was revised and a new implementation programme drawn up to cover the years 1981-1986. It envisages the rehabilitation of the existing Elahera Scheme and the development of about 4,000 hectares (10,000 acres) of new land lying between the old scheme and the Amban Ganga. During 1981/82, it has been programmed to establish a Demonstration and Training Centre at Attanakadawela, to carry out a land encroachment and socio-economic survey, rehabilitation of Tract No. 18, completion of on-farm development in that tract and also to construct certain project buildings.

System B: An implementation programme is being drawn up to commence settlement activities in Zone 5 L. B. in 1982. It is expected to develop this area for irrigated cultivation under the Maduru Oya Project. As a first step to the establishment of project management, the Pimurettawa Scheme, which falls within System B and which will be augmented by water from the Maduru Oya reservoir, was taken over by the Mahaweli Authority for agricultural and community development commencing with the Maha season 1981/82. A letter of intent has been signed by the Mahaweli Authority with Messrs Gutheri

Lanka Ltd., to set up a nucleus plantation of 12,000 acres in oil palm and another 12,000 acres are to be developed by out-growers in System B.

ENVIRONMENT

Considering the large extent and the geographical diversity of the area that is covered by the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Programme, it was found essential to implement an environment conservation plan. With that in view, specialist establishments, outside the Mahaweli Authority as well, were formed into a committee to draw up a programme, with USAID assistance. This covers the fields of watershed management, forestry, wild life, wetland and aquatic vegetation control, water/soil management water supply, landuse planning, regulation of rivers, water levels, flood patterns etc. The Department of Wild Life is taking action to declare certain areas as wild life reserves. A comprehensive network of such reserves, providing sufficient wild life habitat and interlinks is planned. Government approval is awaited on this matter.

With the proposed declaration of Maduru Oya National Park, certain communities of Veddha origin, scattered over the area need resettlement outside the area. Before their resettlement, considering the historical and anthropological value, a research/survey of Veddha culture is being made with the assistance of the Department of Sociology, University of Peradeniya. Wild elephants pocketed in and around the area south of Meegalewa (H2) needed removal from that area as they were a threat to life and property. The Department of Wild Life has undertaken to organise a drive to move them into the Wilpattu Sanctuary.

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TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

SPOTLIGHT

Football Coaches

A LEADING MORNING DAILY had it that some football coaches had interviewed the West German Ambassador in Sri Lanka, Dr. Gerhard Pfeiffer, and made certain representations regarding Burkhard Pape, the West German soccer coach loaned to Sri Lanka by the Bonn Government. *Allrounder* has been a very keen soccer fan although not professing to have played the game. He has especially been a close follower of the achievements of this unassuming coach from Bonn. From inquiries we have been able to gather that Pape has done a tremendous amount of work physically (in addition to getting the money) for the improvement and development of the game in every nook and corner of the island. What then are the reasons for these representations made by these coaches? Apparently all stems from frustration. Not being at the receiving end of the good things they expect to fall in to their laps, we suppose!

The local football coaches are a very funny breed. They will go to the extent of cutting each other's throat or even betraying each other to feather their own nests. When they feel that their hopes and aspirations cannot be met they disgracefully do the about-turn. *Allrounder* just fails to understand their mentality. One can understand if there is anything worthwhile in the representations that had been made. These allegations, all based on hearsay, are baseless. Until and unless these coaches give up their double dealing and concentrate on their jobs—that of coaching—*Allrounder* is sure that it is the game that will continue to remain in the rut it had fallen into. It is time that the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka took it upon itself to weed out these undesirables once and for all and plan purposefully for the progress of the common man's game.

THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS scene seems to be in big turmoil at the moment. Firstly the tour of South Africa by a team of English cricketers led by Gooch completely put the English cricket scene and especially the world cricket scene in disarray. However,

the Test and Country Cricket Board found a solution by banning for three years the English cricketers who toured South Africa. The "dirty dozen" as they were called will not be seen in action against the Indians or the Pakistanis in the Test series this summer. The South Africans no doubt will try every ploy to induce more cricketers to play in South Africa in an endeavour to disrupt the good relations existing among members of the International Cricket Conference. Till the Springboks are re-admitted as full members of the International Cricket Conference they will continue to spring problems to the CC and world cricket.

The Falklands issue, where Argentina is at war with Britain, has warranted the pulling out of Argentina from the next CC Trophy qualifying tourney to be staged in England this summer for Associate Member countries belonging to the International Cricket Conference. On the topic of the CC Trophy Qualifying Tourney and it is a matter of pride and rejoicing to all Sri Lankans to learn that Dr. Cyril Ernest, a Sri Lankan will be playing for America in this tourney. Dr. Ernest who left Sri Lanka some years ago was a very promising allrounder and had he not left for the United States he would certainly have sported the Sri Lanka cap in cricket. *Tribune* wishes Dr. Ernest all the best and hopes that he will in addition keep the Sri Lanka flag flying high.

THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES is expected to go on in Brisbane without any disruption but the Games in Edinburgh could be dicey if the Commonwealth sportsmen continue to maintain links with South Africa, according to the Commonwealth Games Federation. A special General Assembly was held in London recently. There were, we understand no calls for a boycott of this year's games by the African nations, but all sporting contracts with South Africa and in particular the 1981 Springbok Rugby Tour of New Zealand were unanimously condemned. The Federation also set up a committee to review their constitutions and outline the guidelines. A statement said: "The Constitution should be amended to facilitate pursuance of the objectives of the 'Gleneagles Agreement (which discourages sporting links with South Africa). The Federation would be empowered to suspend the right of participation of any country for a good cause arising from gross non-fulfilment of the objectives of the Gleneagles Agreement."

THE CRICKET CAPTAINCY crisis in Pakistaly which was raging for sometime has been finally solved with the appointing of Imran Khan to lead them on their tour of England in the second half of this summer. Incidentally, the Indians and Pakistanis seem to be having trouble with their cricketing set up. How could one explain the seething discontent that was shown in certain quarters in India after the touring party was selected. Allegations and counter-

allegations were made against the Indian Cricket Board, but the tour party left with no change. The Pakistan cricket scene too, was in disarray and with the appointing of Imran Khan we hope the dust will settle and the game will progress.

THE HAVELOCKS AND THE CR & FC remain unbeaten after the third week of Clifford Cup A Division rugby. The other unbeaten team is the Air-Force which has won extremely well at the time of writing. Not one of the games has so far drawn, a packed house. The reason for this is obvious. The Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union is an endeavour to finish the tourney as quickly as possible has drawn out the itinerary and two matches are played in Colombo on the same day. This has led to supporters going to see their favourites in action and so a full house has yet to be seen at any one match. The Havelocks faced their stiffest opposition from the Police on May 9 and better rugby know-how enabled them to nose out the Policemen by 7 points to three. In the other games Air Force beat Kandy by 10 points to 7 and CH & FC beat Navy by 26 points to 6. The Havelocks, although missing several of their seasoned campaigners, seem to be settling down comfortably and a repeat of last season's performance cannot be completely ruled out.

Arjuna Ranatunga the Ananda schoolboy who created quite a sensation by being the youngest schoolboy to play for Sri Lanka against the England cricketers in early February and who made it a memorable debut with a well compiled halfcentury, was quite rightly picked the "Schoolboy" Cricketer of the Year in contests conducted by two leading groups of newspapers.

Allrounder



SPORTS CHRONICLE

May 1 - 7

SATURDAY, MAY 1: Havelock SC who won the "Tripple Crown" last season, will be hoping for a much improved performance today from their players who meet the tough Kandy Sports Club at Nittawela in their first-round *Clifford Cup League Rugby* match. Several "new faces" will don the Uva jersey in this season's rugby trounament. Most of the players are as usual from the JEDB and SPC and the JEDB Regional Chairman, Mr. E. A. Jaywardene, has again pledged his assistance in further helping to promote the game of rugby in the Uva district. Police scraped through to a 9 points (3 penalties) to 3 (1 penalty) win over the depleted Sailors in their first round Clifford Cup League Rugby match played yesterday at Police Park, Bambalapitiya. The police-

men were held to a score of 3 all at "lemons". N. Lionel Manapperuma and N. V. Perera won their second round matches of the *All-island Lanka Plate Snooker Championships* at the MICH tables on Thursday. Mannapperuma (King's Cue, Kandy) beat C. M. Naem (YMCA) 87 - 38, 72 - 4, 40 - 58, 44 - 30 while N. V. Perera (YMCA) beat D. Tissa Wijayasinghe (Kalutara TC) 28 - 69, 87 - 8, 86 - 40, 87 - 35. Trinity beat Vidyartha by 23 points (2 goals, 2 tries and 1 penalty) to nil in an *Inter School Rugger* (friendly) match at Nittawela yesterday. At half time Trinity led 11 - nil. The President Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka Deputy Inspector General of Police (Nothern Range) A. Navaratnam left yesterday to represent Sri Lanka at the Asian Football Federation EXCO meeting in Thailand today and tomorrow. Dominating both sessions of play Isipathana overwhelmed Ananda by 26 points (a goal a 5 tries) to nil in the inter-school rugby match played at Longden Place yesterday. Miss Kamini de Silva—Mrs. Glory Arasakumar won the Monthly Duplicate *Bridge Women's Pairs* Event held at the Womens International Club. Open individual player Event will be held on Sunday May 2nd 3 p.m. at the Bridge Federation headquarters, Race Course. Unseeded 19 year old B. Randhawa beat 4th seeded Vikramjit Singh 4 and 3 in the semi-finals of the *91st Amateur Golf Championships* now in progress at the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club Course. In the other semi final reigning champion R. Nanda beat fellow countryman. A. Luthra 4 and 3 to reach the finals.

SUNDAY, MAY 2: The Sinhalese Sports Club were set for a first innings win in their *Daily News Trophy* final round match against Matara Sports Club at Maitland Place yesterday. The match will be continued today at 10 a.m. SSC 137 : Matara SC 82 for 9 wickets at close. Kurunegala Sports Club were in a bad way, losing 4 wickets for 21 in reply to NCC's 204 in the *Daily News Trophy* final round match at the—MCA grounds Wijerama Mawatha. The match will be continued today. NCC 204 : Kurunegala SC 21 for 4 wickets at close. Havelocks scored a close win over Kandy Sports Club 12 points (4 penalties) to 7 (a try and a penalty) in the *Cliford Cup Rugby* football match played yesterday at Nittawela. Royal Scored an easy win over Wesley by 19 points (2 goals 1 try and a penalty) to 7 (a goal) in their *Interschool Rugby* football match played yesterday at Reid Avenue. Fourteen year old Sokian N. D. D. S. Jayasinghe caused a major upset when he beat the top seed and favourite S. Sivaruban 15 - 7, 15 - 3 in the third round of the *Men's Singles Events* and then went on to the final with another straight sets win over a Jinadasa 15 - 7, 18 - 16 at the Colombo YMCA *Open Novices Badminton* championships which were continued yesterday at the YY Gymnasium. The 91st National *Golf Championships* of Sri Lanka found a new champion in "Bambi" Randawa—the 19-year-old Calcutta University student.

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

MONDAY, MAY 3: SSC and NCC won first innings points in the two *Daily News* Trophy final round cricket matches concluded in Colombo yesterday. At Maitland Place, SSC beat Matara on first innings. At MCA grounds NCC had also to be content with first innings points against Kurunegala NCC 204. Thanks to the kicking boots of Iqbal Musaffer, CR just managed to get the better of CH & FC in their first round *Clifford Cup* League rugby match yesterday at Maitland Crescent. CR won by 12 points (3 penalties, 1 drop goal) to 9 (1 goal, 1 penalty) Arjuna Parakrama came first in the qualifying tournament for the *National Chess* Championships. This is the first time he had been unbeaten in the 10 round game. Air Force scored an easy 23 points (1 goal, 2 tries 3 penalties) to 12 (1 goal, 2 penalties) victory over Army in their first round *Clifford Club* rugby match played yesterday at Galle Face. Once again, Kandy Sports Club lost on penalties. This time it was against Havelocks in their first round league rugby match for the *Clifford Cup* at Nittawela on Saturday in which the Havies won by 12 points (4 penalties) to 7 (a try, 1 penalty). In the finals of the Badulla District *Inter-AGA's Divisions Elle Tournament* conducted by the Ministry of Sports, Badulla Division defeated Ella Division to annex the championships.

TUESDAY, MAY 4: Airmen seem to be "flying high" this season after some mediocre performances in the past few years. For the first time, they have reached the top of the points table in the *Clifford Cup* League rugby tournament: CR are in second place, with defending champions, Havelocks, placed third Army and Police tied for the fourth place followed by CH & FC, Navy and Kandy SC. CTB has taken the lead in Group 1 of the Nationalised Services A Division League *Soccer* Championships with the Building Materials Corporation heading the Group II Chandrapala Galapatti (Badulla Depot) won the titles at the Uva Regional Transport Board Inter Depot *Indoor Games Tournament* held at the CTB SC Badulla. Hatton Police Sports Club beat Rainbow Sports Club Hatton by 25 runs in their Hatton District *Limited Over Cricket* tournament match played at Darrowella recently. Matara Regional AGA's Division won the championship with a total of 168 points at the *Inter AGA's Divisions Track and Field meet* of the Matara District sponsored by the Sports Ministry at the Uyanwatta Stadium Matara. Victory SC qualified to battle Black Square SC in the final of the *Golden Jubilee Soccer Championships* of the Saunders SC with a hard fought 2 goals to 1 win over Negombo Youths in their semi-final played on Sunday at the Sugathadasa Stadium. T. Kanagarajah won the Monthly Duplicate *Contract Bridge* Individual Player Event conducted by the Contract Bridge Association at the Bridge Federation headquarters. Australia and the United States are the favourites to win the *World Tennis* Team cup starting

tomorrow, following the withdrawal of title holders Czechoslovakia. Peru scored a comfortable 1-0 win over France in a *World Soccer Cup* warm-up match at Paris on Monday night, the first time the two sides have met. Asian Chess Queen Rohini Khadilkar of India scored a convincing victory over Switzerland's Evi Reimer in the seventh round of the first *World Cup Chess* for girls under 20 at Senta (Yugoslavia) yesterday Remier resigned on the 22nd move. Two second half goals by Craig Johnston gave Liverpool their 11th successive victory and moved them nearer their 13th successive victory and moved them nearer their 13th *English Football League* title.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5: The 16-year-old Chandima de Silva of Dharmasoka College won a "double" at the 30th *YMCA Novices Badminton* Championships concluded on Monday night at the Central YMCA Gymnasium Fort. The Sri Lanka *Schools Football Association* will conduct the following tournaments in the age groups given. Under-13 Singapore Cup Tournament under 15 for the Sports Ministry Shield. Under 17 for the Sir John Tarbat Shield and under 19 for the Singer Shield. Police trounced Navy by 5 goals to nil in a *Andriesz Shield Hockey* match played at Police Park. YMCA's M. Sivanathan had easy access to the *Lanka Plate Snooker* title when he beat his opponent H. A. Premaratne of Ceylon Brewery's Nuwara Eliya in four straight frames at the MICH tables. Swarna Pieris was unbeaten in the women's matches while W. A. Buddharsi had four victories and one loss in the men's matches at the trifas conducted by the *Table Tennis Association* of Sri Lanka in preparation for the 6th Asian Championships to be held in Indonesia from May 24 to June 3. Within five years after taking to golf, the 19-year-old economics undergraduate of the University of Calcutta—Bayam Ranghawa—won his first major title last Saturday when he won the 91st Sri Lanka Amateur Championships at the Nuwara Eliya *Golf Club Course*. US professional Gary Hallberg carded a final round even par to today to win the 70 million yen (291,000 dollars) Chunichi Crowns Golf tournament here. Within six years after taking to Golf, Oosha Chanmugam won her first major title—the 88th Sri Lanka Amateur Women's Championships at Nuwara Eliya last Saturday. She beat the experienced Yvonne Abhayaratne in the final at 6 and 4.

THURSDAY, MAY 6: A six-a-side *Softball Cricket* tournament for the Anandatissa de Alwis Challenge Trophy will be held on May 7, 8 and 9 at the Sri Jayawardhanapura Maha Viyadalaya grounds, Kotte. Ninety six teams are participating in the tournament, which has been organised by the Diyawanna Sports Club. The inaugural cricket match between Bank of America and Citi Bank will be played on the Bloomfield Ground at Reid Avenue on Saturday, commencing at 10 a.m. will Trinity swamped Thursday by 24 points (4 goals) to nil in their

School Rugby match played yesterday at Longden Place, after leading 12 - 0 at the Breather. A Time Trial in over distance and under distance conducted by the Amateur Athletic Association of Sri Lanka will be held on May 15 and 16 at the Colombo University grounds. Army Colts beat Havelocks Bambaras by 15 points (3 tries and a penalty) to 3 points (a penalty) in the B Division *Rugby* Tournament Match played at Galle Face yesterday. Forty points to nil was Police Griffins winning margin over Navy's Dreadnoughts in a B Division rugby match played at Police Park yesterday. The young shuttlers from Dharmasoke College, Ambalangoda who made a short tour of Anuradhapura and Jaffna met with success. This was the same Sokian side that emerged champions of the All-Island Schools Under-14 girls team championships of the Sri Lanka *Schools Badminton* Association. The All-Island Coaching Scheme for Schools drawn up by the Coaching and Promotion Committee of the Sri Lanka Schools Badminton Association headed by Mr. Ariyadasa Silva, its Chairman, gets underway tomorrow at the Brinda Memorial Club courts at Jaffna. Schemes of this nature will be held in all parts of the country soon. Two of Sri Lanka's talented youngsters have sent in their applications to the Sri Lanka Tennis Association to participate at the 21st Saint Louis Junior Invitation Championships to be staged at the Triple A Tennis Club Courts at St. Louis, Illinois from July 12 to 17. Judo kits from the Singapore Judo Association were handed over yesterday by His Excellency Kazuo Chiha the Japanese Ambassador in Sri Lanka to the Deputy Minister of Sports Edwin Tilakaratne at a function held at the Embassy at Gregory's Road.

FRIDAY, MAY 7: A fine all-round performance by S. D. Arunasiri (54 and 5 for 19) enabled Sri Sumanagala rout Zahira in their *Under 17 Cricket Match* played at Maradana recently. Zahira: 55 - Sri Sumangala 168. A fine bowling performance by Chintaka Pieris who claimed 5 for 52, enabled Sri Sumangala score another easy victory over Dharmapala in their *Under 17 cricket* match played at Pannipitiya. Dharmapala 164. Sri Sumangala 226. Grand CC defeated Olympics Dehiwela by 10 wickets in a crickets match played at the Frazer Grounds. Olympics: 29 in 16 overs; Grand CC 93. Half centuries by skipper P. de Silva and C. Jayatileke helped Tea Comissioner's Department to an easy four-wicket win over Valuation Department in a G Division State Services cricket match. Sixty eight schools have sent in their entires for the Sri Lanka *Schools Cricket* Association Under 15 and 17 tournaments. Vidyarathe beat D. S. Senanayake MV by 30 points (1 goal, 1 try) to 6 (1goal) in a *Schools Rugby* match played at Nittawela yesterday. St. Peters scored an unimpressive 9 points (a goal and a drop goal) to nil victory over Wesley in an inter-school rugby match at Bambalapitiya. Royal coasted to a 19 points (4 tries and a penalty) to 4 (1 try) victory over Ananda

in a schools rugby match played at Maitland Cresent yestrday. Victory SC take on Serendib SC in their *City Football League Division I* tournament match on Saturday at the Sugathadasa Stadium at 4 p.m Zahira scored a narrow 11 points (2 tries and a penalty) to 8 (2 tries) winover Prince of Wales in a *School Rugby* match played at Moratuwa yesterday. Lake House will meet each other at the Sugathadasa Stadium on Sunday playing an exhibition *Elle Match* in the morning and a soccer match in the afternoon. The Junior Boys Championship and Senior Pentathlon meet conducted by the Sri Lanka Schools *Athletics* Association will be held at St. Thomas College Grounds, Gurutalawa on May 10 and 11 under the following age groups, 12, 13 14 and 15. The Commonwealth Games will go ahead in Brisbane in October without disruptios but the 1986 Games in Edinburgh could be threatened if Commonwealth sportsmen maintain links with South Africa, the Commonwealth Games Federation announced in London on Wednesday night. The Chief Instructor of the Sri Lanka *Taekwondo Association*, Cyril Anthony (4th Dan Black Belt) and a ten-member team from Sri Lanka have been invited by the Canadian Taekwondo Federation to participate at the annual Canadian Continental Cup Championships to be staged at Quebec City, Canada on October 29, 30 and 31.

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FOR THE RECORD

Sri Lanka - USSR

TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED AT THE END OF THE VISIT TO THE USSR BY THE HON. A. C. S. HAMEED, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. At the invitation of the Soviet Government the Foreign Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, A. C. Shahul Hameed paid an official visit to the USSR from 27 April to 3 May 1982. The Minister laid wreaths at the Mausolem of V. I. Lenin and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as well as at the Piskarevskoye Memorial Cemetery in Leningrad. During his stay in Moscow A. C. S. Hameed was received by and had discussions with the Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR N. A. Tikhonov. Talks held between A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and A. C. S. Hameed, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. The Sri Lanka Minister also had discussions with Chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR A. P. Chitkov, Chairman of the Leningrad City Executive Committee L. N. Zaykov and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

Uzbek SSR B. A. Abdurazakov, A. A. Gromyko and A. C. S. Hameed discussed the questions of further developing relations between the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka and exchanged views on international problems of mutual interest. They noted with satisfaction that the relations between the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka are developing steadily on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and friendly cooperation in the interests of the peoples of both countries and in the interest of strengthening universal peace. Both sides agreed that good possibilities exist for further deepening their cooperation in the international arena and re-affirmed their interest in further developing mutually beneficial trade, economic, scientific and technological ties and in expanding contacts in the spheres of science, culture, education and sport.

THE MINISTERS noted with satisfaction the similarity of the positions of the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka on the crucial problem of preserving peace. There were however certain differences of evaluations of some developments in the international situation. The sides expressed their concern in connection with the recent serious deterioration of the international situation. The USSR and Sri Lanka are both of the view that in the present circumstances vigorous joint efforts by all states, large and small, are needed to lessen the threat of war, strengthen international security, as well as the security of all States, curb the arms race, above all the nuclear missile arms race, and carry out effective measures in the field of disarmament. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR drew the attention of the Sri Lanka side to the important significance of the new initiatives put forward by L. I. Brezhnev which are aimed at easing tensions in the world, inter alia in Asia, and at removing the threat of nuclear war. The sides noted that the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka attach great importance to maintaining international dialogue, exercising restraint, carrying out practical steps with the view to promptly eliminating the existing conflicts and tensions and preventing the emergence of new ones. Sri Lanka stressed the importance of reaching mutually acceptable agreements in the Soviet-US negotiations on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe now underway and of the early resumption of the strategic arms limitation talks. Both sides expressed their readiness to contribute actively to the successful work of the UN General Assembly Second Special Session devoted to disarmament. The Soviet side stated that it regards with respect the non-aligned policy of Sri Lanka and noted the importance of the non-aligned movement as an important factor in world politics and its contribution to the strengthening in universal peace, and to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and all forms of discrimination in international relations, as well as Sri Lanka's commitment to the fundamental principles of the policy of non-alignment and the principles of the UN Charter. When discussing the situation in Asia

the Ministers emphasized the importance of solving disputes through negotiations on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and non-interference in the internal affairs of States and advocated developing mutually beneficial cooperation among the states of the continent.

THE SIDES expressed concern over the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East caused by the aggressive actions of Israel which is continuing to flout the principles of the United Nations and fundamental rules of international law. They once again advocated a comprehensive and just settlement of the conflict in that area on the basis of an unconditional withdrawal of Israel troops from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, ensuring the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine including their inalienable right to establish their own state and recognizing the right to exist of all the states of that area. The USSR and Sri Lanka believe that a lasting settlement in the Middle East could be achieved only with the participation of all the sides concerned including the Palestine Liberation Organisation which is the only legitimate representative of the people of Palestine. The two sides pronounced themselves in favour of a speedy political settlement of the conflict between Iraq and Iran. They support the efforts of the United Nations and of the non-aligned movement in that direction. The Ministers devoted particular attention to discussing the situation in the Indian Ocean area. The Soviet side reaffirmed its support for the UN Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and its readiness to cooperate in this with all the interested countries. This statement was received with satisfaction by the Sri Lanka side. Both sides agreed that the practical implementation of the Declaration could substantially improve the situation in the Indian Ocean area. In regard to the work of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, both sides spoke out in favour of immediate practical steps towards turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace including the holding in Colombo of an international conference on that subject in the first half of 1983 at the latest. To this end they deem it necessary for all the countries concerned to cooperate in order to ensure that the practical preparation for the conference be speeded up. The Sri Lanka side noted the Soviet initiatives regarding a mutual restriction of naval operations of the two opposing alliances of states and extension of confidence building measures to the seas and oceans especially to the areas through which the busiest shipping routes pass.

IN CONNECTION with the work of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea the Ministers noted that the Draft Convention on the Law of the Sea worked out in the course of extensive international negotiations has the support of the overwhelming majority of states. The Soviet Union and Sri Lanka came out in favour of its early adoption

at the current eleventh session of the said Conference. The two sides re-affirmed their constant solidarity with the struggle for complete elimination of colonialism and racism in Southern Africa and called for the immediate cessation of the occupation of Namibia and withdrawal from its territory of South African troops, urgent and complete practical implementation of the United Nations decisions on Namibia and the transfer of power in the country to the only legitimate representative of the people of Namibia—SWAPO. The Soviet Union and Sri Lanka expressed strong support for the struggle of the people of South Africa for the elimination of the obnoxious system of apartheid and demanded that the aggressive actions of the racist regime of South Africa against Angola and Mozambique should be stopped. They again reaffirmed their support of the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolution which envisages the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination.

Having noted the great importance of the United Nations in the strengthening of peace and international security, development of cooperation between states, the sides expressed an unanimous opinion regarding the need for the further strengthening of this international organisation and raising its efficiency on the basis of strict observance by all countries of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. The Minister spoke out in favour of restructuring international economic relations on an equitable and democratic basis which would contribute to the acceleration of progress of developing countries and would meet the interests of all mankind. The call for holding global negotiations on major economic problems as soon as possible in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly to this effect. The sides believe that the Soviet-Sri Lanka negotiations that took place will promote deeper mutual understanding stronger friendly relations and wider co-operation between both sides. On behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka A. C. S. Hameed re-affirmed the invitation to A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, to pay an official visit to Sri Lanka which was accepted with appreciation. The date of the visit will be arranged later.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Republic Building,
Colombo 1.
4th May 1982.

ARMS

Hocus-Pocus

New Delhi, April 20: The former chief negotiator at SALT Paul Warnke has struck a blow for sanity by exposing the duplicity of the Reagan administration on strategic arms limitation vis-a-vis the Soviet Union. Earlier, Senator Edward Kennedy had dispelled the disinformation President Reagan had peddled when he disclosed that the US has in fact a larger number of nuclear weapons than does the Soviet

Union. His disclosure bared the US strategy of seeking an elimination of Soviet missiles in the European context while maintaining its own arsenal intact. Mr. Warnke's new testimony on the other hand indicates that whatever advantage that may have accrued to the Soviet Union with the deployment of the Medium-range missiles in the European sector has been offset by improvements in the US arsenal affected over the past ten years. The US, he has said, has replenished (with improved, more accurate missiles) weaponry at the rate of three new warheads every day. It has introduced MIRV technology which enables multiple warheads to be fitted on each missile. The Minuteman-3 missiles carry three warheads whereas the submarine-launched Poseidon missiles, which have replaced the Polaris each carry ten warheads which can be released independently to ten different destinations. The submarines carrying these missiles lurk in waters around the Soviet Union in the North Sea, the Mediterranean, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean. Besides, the B-52 bombers of Vietnam fame have been fitted with cruise missiles. Mr. Warnke has said that the Reagan-Haig argument that freezing the European missiles will "reward" the Soviet Union is "irresponsible". He is the one person who can say so with authority.

Mr. Warnke has been conducting a somewhat lonely campaign for many years against the unreasonableness, if not downright dishonesty of seeking "linkages" between Soviet behaviour at home and abroad and arms control and disarmament. Before he resigned the job of Chief US negotiator at SALT (when the SALT II treaty was languishing in the Senate and it had become clear that the "linkage" concept was gaining ascendancy in the US, he said: "... It is essential that when we hear that our arms control negotiations should be linked to Soviet behaviour in other respects we remember one main principle, effective and verifiable control over strategic arms is not a required for Soviet good behaviour.... It is clear that strategic arms control has to stand on its own feet." Since the end of World War II nearly four decades ago, the military-industrial complex has been dictating US policy. It has supporters in both the Republican and Democratic parties (19 Senators from both parties signed the letter demanding postponement of ratification of SALT). However, of late it has become increasingly clear that pandering to the military-industrial complex has unacceptable side-effects on the economy, that "linkages" have not achieved the desired results. The Reagan Administration can ignore the voices of reason only at the risk of growing unpopularity. The invitation to President Brezhnev to come to New York to discuss world affairs and disarmament also has its "linkages". President Brezhnev has suggested that the summit be held on neutral territory, unconnected with negotiations in other forums. President Reagan would do well to take the opportunity to turn a new leaf.—

—PATRIOT.

TRIBUNE, MAY 22, 1982

Newspaper War in U.K.

London, May 8: A bitter war of words over the Falklands crisis has flared in British newspapers with the country's biggest-selling dailies accusing each other of treachery, bloodlust and lying. The top-selling *Sun*, which supports Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, has charged its biggest rival the *Daily Mirror* with treason, saying it wanted Britain to appease the Argentine Government and trade peace for honour. The *Mirror* struck back today with a full-page editorial branding the *Sun* as "The Harlot of Fleet Street" and denouncing it as a coarse and demented newspaper which had broken all records of lying. What the *Sun* means by treachery is a refusal to twist, distort and mangle the truth about the fighting in the South Atlantic, it said adding, "No one could accuse the *Sun* of failing to do that". Charging the *Sun*, owned by Australian Press magnate Rupert Murdoch, with exulting at the deaths of Argentine sailors and shaming Britain, it declared with a reference to Nazi Germany's propaganda chief: The *Sun* today is to journalism what D. G. Goebbels was to truth".

The *Sun's* original attack on the *Mirror*, which backs the opposition Labour Party, followed a remark by Mrs. Thatcher that newspaper and television reporters who treated Argentinian and Britain on an equal basis gave offence. The *Sun*, which says it sells 4.3 million newspapers a day, proclaimed in its next editorial: "There are traitors in our midst. . . . the Prime Minister does not speak of treason. The *Sun* does not hesitate to use the word". Along with the *Mirror* which says it has a daily sale of 3.5 million, the *Sun's* targets were the Liberal *Guardian* newspaper and a BBC journalist, Peter Snow, who on television had used the words, "If we believe the British". . . . when reporting casualties in an air clash over the Falklands. The *Sun* told him he should not doubt his government's version. "A British citizen is either on his country's side—or he is its enemy," it said. The BBC rejected the criticism and the *Guardian's* editor Peter Preston described the attack as despicable. But today the *Sun* was unrepentant, saying: "The *Sun* is entitled to speak its mind, especially when it believes that certain newspapers are failing to support their own country at a time of grave national crisis".

Snow in a letter to the *Times of London* said that in the present anxious time for everyone in Britain he, as a journalist, would be even more anxious if it were generally thought that the press and television should not try to report and analyse events as dispassionately as they had done in more normal times. "Our job", he wrote, "is to report events and constantly to examine the accuracy of accounts we are given of them. Our job also is constantly to question those who have the power to direct events, and to question the assumptions and assessments

on which they make their decision". Journalists felt as deeply as their readers about loss of life, but he hoped most members of the British public would be as concerned as journalists if they were expected to cease his constant questioning, particularly at a time when so many lives were at stake.—

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Govt.

Notice

The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as Amended by The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7

Ref No. 3/63/427
03/J 76 LG.839

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below for a public purpose. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No 191/3 of 03.05.1982.

SCHEDULE

<i>Name of Village etc</i>	: Barandawatta village within Ward No. 3 of the Alawwa Town Council limits, Dambadeni Hatpattuwa West D.R.O's Division, Kurunegala District.
<i>Name of Land</i>	: Borellawatra Kajukotuwa Watta Meegahamula Watta alias Induruwa Watta Kehekkadekokuwa alias Moragahahena Ihalawatta
<i>Plan & Lot Nos</i>	: Lot Nos. ,221, 222, 223, 224, 225 and 226 in Supplement No. 19 in F. V. P. 463.

The Kachcheri,
Kurunegala,
26th April, 1982.

A. George
District Land Officer
Kurunegala District.

CONFIDENTIALLY

Yet More Upali

IS IT NOT TRUE that the extracts from the article entitled UPALI: COCOA KING WITH A MIDAS TOUCH by John Walsh from the prestigious international business magazine *The Director* (March 1982) which we published in this column in the last two weeks made most interesting reading? That we publish the concluding part this week? That what is of special interest is that according to a statement made in Parliament by the Minister of Finance and Planning, Ronnie de Mel, the much-in-the-news Upali Wijewardene had filed a declaration under the Exchange Control Regulations (when called up on to do so) that his assets and incomes abroad were nil? That there is speculation as to whether Upali had taken advantage of some loophole in the Exchange Control Laws (in the present era of an open economy) to make such a declaration or whether he had done so out of sheer devilry? That John Walsh in the article in question repeatedly talks about his "brashness" that has carried him far in the world of business? That below is the concluding part of the John Walsh write-up?

"Upali Malaysia started in 1973 with a purpose-built factory to house three strands of operation: the making of the classy best selling Kandos Chocolates, and the processing of cocoa butter and powder for export. From humble beginnings, it has expanded many times and now stands on over two acres, churning out 100 tonnes of each product in a good month. Eighty per cent of the cocoa butter and powder is exported to the US, while the chocolate bars and boxes find an enthusiastic market in Australia, Nepal, Thailand, Hong Kong, Bahrain and Mauritius. When it started, Kandos had to compete against the indigenous Allied Chocolates, and the busy distributing agents for Cadbury's. Now they claim a healthy market share of up to 40 percent, a turnover of US \$35m, and a gratifying increase in sales of about 30 percent each year since 1978. A second cocoa processing factory was built in Singapore in 1977 to run semi-automatically and produce 135 tonnes of cocoa butter and powder per month, to be exported entirely to the US (Mars, Hershey and Nabisco are the largest customers). And a third chocolate factory was built in Bangkok in 1978 to serve the large (40m), and largely untapped, Thai market. For a man of such large intentions and sweepings programmes, Wijewardene's management style is extremely open. He leaves the day-to-day running of his different concerns (even the priceless Upali Malaysia unit) entirely to his plant managers, rarely attends board meetings, communicates mostly by phone with his Colombo HQ, and gives the general impression of transcending the whole business, a kind of *eminence grise* at 43.

But the arm's-length approach is deceptive: Upali simply believes that his hand-picked team of managers are individually geniuses and backs their judgement to the hilt. Thus the Sabah plan (US \$50m of it) originated from the Chairman's blithe dictum "we must expand our plantations" being translated, by the Group youthful Technical Director S. Gunawardne, into instant, large-scale action. Upali likes nothing better than having new schemes initiated by one of his lieutenants.

"Like a benevolent dictator, the Chairman constantly moves around his empire in his glistening Cessna Citation emblazoned with the company logo. Owning 26 top-class race horses, he puts in a lot of time during the flat racing season jetting from Sydney to Newbury and back to the East, to watch his winners; but he is never very far from the centres of action, moving through factory or penthouses hideaway surrounded by valets and managers, conducting *ad hoc* board discussions in alternate low murmurs and high bellows of laughter. In the final analysis he remains proudly Sri Lankan as both symbol and leader of a new entrepreneurial spirit. His youthfulness and notorious brashness have earned him a reputation among the general public of a roguish whizz-kid, who may be conducting the sharpest of deals but who is doing something positive about the country's unemployment figures. Undoubtedly, with his contacts and intellectual acumen, he will enter the government before long (he is widely tipped by the Asian media to become the next Minister of Finance in Sri Lanka) but it would be a pity if such a natural marketeer were to hang up his guns for the sake of politics. South East Asia is a business arena teetering on the edge of a consumer goods explosion: and Sri Lanka is all set to play her part in the boom. When Upali Wijewardene says he wants to see his country become another Malaysia, it is a fine question whether this will come about sooner through his political policies than through his commercial example".

IS IT NOT A FACT that as of January 1982 some of the premises on which the John Walsh article in *The Director* is based are no longer valid? That Upali has broken away from his "Cousin Jayewardene" and has drifted towards his father-in-law's sister's party? That he is now the acclaimed friend, philosopher and guide of the SLFP (S)? That he is credited with having persuaded Anura to break from Maithri and go back to the mother? That he could not persuade Mrs. B to take Maithri back? That he is also credited with having edged Anil to break from the LSSP to form a splinter to be junior partner and adjunct of the SLFP (S)? That it is not known whether he will run on the SLFP (S) ticket at the next elections for a parliamentary seat? That if he is able to bankroll the SLFP (S) to victory he can hope to be Minister of Finance? That some think that he will bide his time and stake his claim directly for the post of President?

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GARADS

THE BANE OF CORRUPTION

'If there is unanimity about anything it is in regard to inflation and corruption. Both are increasing and both are eating into the vitals of our society. Inflation is statistically provable, corruption is not—but its pervasiveness is felt. Fortunately there are still a large number of persons who are untainted by it and, to use a traditional Indian expression, it is because of their goodness that the rains occur in time and the crops grow. But there is no doubt that at various levels, not only of the bureaucracy and of political life, but also in trade and commerce, corruption is a major concern.

It is sometimes said that corruption is due to poverty and gross disparities. This would imply that the rich and advanced countries are free of it—which is very far from the truth. It is also an uncalled for slur on the poor, for the poor of India are among the most upright persons anywhere. They are the victims of corruption and exploitation, not the cause of it. Corruption is noticed and commented upon in our country because it occurs where the administration comes into touch with the people at large. It arises when individuals want to follow consumption patterns beyond their incomes. The constant emphasis of the media on material goods, the visions of the comforts enjoyed in advanced societies, proliferation of regulations, the pressure of inflation, the breakdown of religious and ethical constraints, a general rise in permissiveness—all these contribute to increase in corruption.

It is obvious that unless we check this disease, the health of the country will be in peril...'

Mrs. Indira Gandhi
P. i. n. e Minister of India.