

# The Ceylon Postnightly Review

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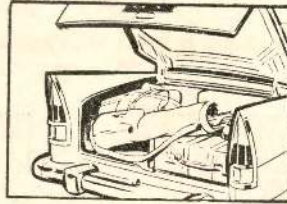


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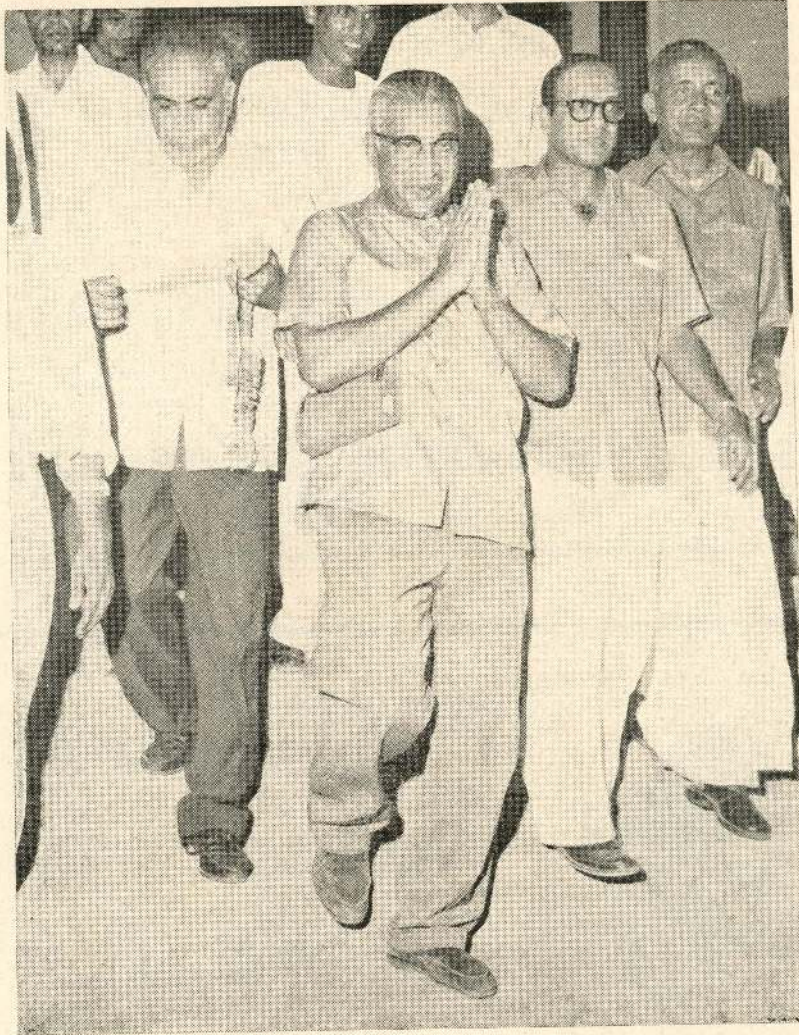
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## Returned to Parliament



Times Photo

**T**HE New Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, with some of his supporters, coming down the steps of the Kegalle Kachcheri after his election to the Dedigama seat in Parliament on Saturday night, March 19th.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake, who was called upon to form a government by the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke last Monday morning, will be 49 on his next birthday. He is a graduate of Cambridge (Corpus Christi). He entered the State Council in 1936 and was Minister of Agriculture in his father Mr. D. S. Senanayake's first National Government.

On his father's death in 1952 he was called to the premiership and received the nation's mandate in the General Election that followed. But he gave up office 18 months later for reasons of health and did not seek election in 1956.

A bachelor, Mr. Senanayake played cricket for St. Thomas' but now takes no active part in sport. His hobby is photography.

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## THE NEW GOVERNMENT

THE result of the General Election exactly reflects the effect on the people of the government of the country in the past four years. Particularly significant is the virtual rout of the Left parties. With them is associated the rise in the cost of living, which is regarded as the outcome of the series of strikes in the port of Colombo, which brought benefits to only a section of the workers.

\* \* \* \*

THEN, again, the defeat of the head of the Caretaker Government, Mr. Dahanayake, and several of the Ministers, Sir Razik Farcid, Mr. R. E. Jayatilleke, Mr. Stanley de Zoysa and Mr. M. M. Mustapha, is not difficult to understand. It was a clear expression of condemnation of the manner in which they tended to exercise the powers temporarily reposed in them.

The swing to the Right is thus explained as indicating a desire to instal in office a party which would restore stability in the country. On its past record, the United National Party obviously had a claim on the electorate. At the same time, the hard core of opinion which had been converted to democratic socialism by Mr. Bandaranaike remained loyal to the concept. Hence the heavy vote for the S.L.F.P.

\* \* \* \*

WITH its precarious majority, the new Government would not be in a position to launch any programme of an extraordinary character. Indeed the possibility is that before a year is out, events might precipitate a fresh General Election. In the meantime its duty is plain, and that is to put the economy on a sound foundation without having recourse to measures that would provoke futile controversy and preclude effective solution of the problems facing the nation, especially unemployment.

We wish the Government well, and hope it will have the co-operation of the people in turning to advantage the good-will it undoubtedly has of the traditional friends of the country, and especially of the investors who have contributed to the development of the products on which its present economic structure is based.

THE EDITOR.



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# MATTERS OF MOMENT

By BRUTUS

THE General Election produced a distinct swing to the Right. Of the 151 seats in the new Parliament, the UNP got 50 and the late Mr. Bandaranaike's right of centre party, the SLFP, 46, with the others a long way behind.

Next came the Federal Party with 15 members. The LSSP and the MEP were back with only ten members each and the CP with three. The caretaker Prime Minister, Mr. W. Dahanayake, was himself beaten and bowed out of public life after 30 years. Of his new party the Lanka Prajathantravadi Paksaya's candidates only four were successful. Mr. Dahanayake submitted his resignation and of his ministers to the Governor-General on Sunday morning.

\* \* \*

ON Monday morning the Governor-General sent for Mr. Dudley Senanayake, Leader of the UNP, and he undertook to form a government after consulting senior members of the party. He will have the support of the four LPP members and Mr. I.M.R.A. Iriyagolle, Leader of the Samajawadi Mahajana Peramuna, of which he was the only successful candidate.

A meeting was arranged between Mr. Senanayake and Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, leader of the Federal Party, after which Mr. Chelvanayakam announced that he would not support the UNP government.

\* \* \*

FOREIGN observers drawn to Ceylon by the general election were struck by the earnestness with which the event was regarded by the electorate generally. This was inevitable not only because of the grave issues involved in this instance but the exhortations that poured on them from all sides. Apart from the meetings held by the different parties and the radio talks given by picked speakers, every candidate was also allowed to send by post free of charge a copy of his manifesto and other literature to every voter. At least one group of public-spirited individuals distributed leaflets in all three languages setting out the responsibility that rested on the voter in this crucial election and the principles that should guide him in casting his vote. Nor was the pul-

pit ignored. But this must have been the first election anywhere in which space was taken in the Press to publish a prayer.

On the Sunday before the election the following unique advertisement was inserted by the National Christian Council: "Prayers for the Nation. O God, Father of all mankind, we

*Mr. C. P. de Silva, the new leader of the S. L. F. P., is, like Mr. Dudley Senanayake, a bachelor and a year younger. He is a nephew of the L.S.S.P. leader, Dr. Colvin R. de Silva. He was appointed to the Civil Service in 1935 and early in his career won encomiums from Mr. D.S. Senanayake*



Mr. C. P. de Silva Times Photo

*as Minister of Agriculture, for his work in the N. C. P.*

*He resigned from the service in 1952 and joined Mr. Bandaranaike, who had just broken away from the U.N.P. in organising the SLFP. When the Party was returned to power in 1956, Mr. de Silva, who had made the Polonaruwa district his second home, was the obvious choice as Minister of Lands.*

*In Parliament he was Leader of the House. But for illness causing his absence from the island he would have been caretaker Prime Minister on Mr. Bandaranaike's death.*

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pray Thee for the electors in our country. May they not be led by plausible talk and party passion or shallow sentiment, but exercise calm and wise judgement, and choose faithful and upright men to represent them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"O Lord, Thou God of righteousness and truth, grant to the leaders of our country and all in positions of responsibility the guidance of Thy Spirit. May they never lead the nation wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideals, but always love righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ our Saviour Redeemer. Amen".

\* \* \*

CEYLON'S new Prime Minister can be sure of being invited to occupy one of the best seats in Westminster Abbey for Princess Margaret's wedding on May 6th. Though it has been officially stated that the date was chosen to suit the Royal Family, the presence in London of Commonwealth Prime Ministers for the conference opening on May 3rd was a factor which weighed in consultations between the Palace and Downing Street.

It will be recalled that the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth also coincided with a previous Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, and Mr. Dudley Senanayake, the then Prime Minister, represented Ceylon in the Abbey procession and viewed the ceremony from the front V.I.P. stall.

\* \* \*

BECAUSE of bronchitis, Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, High Commissioner for Ceylon in the United Kingdom, had to cancel an engagement to open a new branch of the Ceylon Tea Centre in Manchester on March 8. The informal opening took place, however, according to schedule, with the promise that the High Commissioner would visit the centre.

The guests were received by Mr. D. M. Forrest, Commissioner of the Ceylon Tea Board. A feature of the new centre is an exhibition of photographs called "The Charm of Ceylon". Mrs. Menik de Alvis who has been with the Ceylon Tea Centre in London for the past two years is now at work as a receptionist at the Manchester Centre. The centre received publicity on Independent Television on March 12 on the programme "People and Places."

## MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE effect of the chaotic conditions that prevailed in the port last year is reflected in the paucity of ships calling at Colombo this season, although the Port Cargo Corporation claims better output.

It is pointed out that while normally January and February are slack months, fewer ships have been calling in March than is usually the case. One day last week as many as 18 berths were vacant.

The explanation of shipping agencies is that ships of quite a few lines which by-passed Colombo have not resumed their calls since last year.

**A** BRITISH Buddhist monk who made a significant contribution to Buddhist literature was the Ven. Gnanamoli Thero, who passed away early this month while on a pilgrimage in the Wannai district. He was 55.

Born Osbert Moore, he was a graduate of Oxford (Exeter College). Whilst on active service in Italy during the last war, he and a friend, Harold Musson, became interested in Buddhism after reading an Italian book on the subject. Back in England after the war Moore joined the Italian section of the BBC, but the interest of the two friends in Buddhism remained. They eventually came to Ceylon and were admitted to the Order.

Gnanamoli Thero spent most of his time in research at the Island Hermitage off Dodanduwa and translated several Pali texts into English. Of these the best known is his translation of the Visuddhi Magga, the "Path of Purification", which he completed in 1953.

**W**HETHER the exchange of diplomatic missions between Ceylon and Israel is the reason for Syria keeping out of the tea market is the question being asked by exporters. Syrian buyers have given no explanation, but it is well known that the United Arab Republic does not have dealings with countries which have diplomatic relations with Israel. For the first time Ceylon is represented in Israel simultaneously with Italy by Sir Arthur Ranasinha.

A significant fact is that Egypt, the major partner of the UAR, also

has not been buying tea in Ceylon for some months. Whereas Syria made its purchases through trade channels, Egypt had a semi-official mission in Ceylon one of whose chief functions was the purchase of tea.

**T**HE establishment of tourist bureaus in London, Sydney, New Delhi and New York was suggested, by Mr. Barry Moore, Secretary of the Skal Club, Colombo, at the annual meeting of the Club. He appealed to political leaders to treat tourism as a development project of the highest priority alongside agricultural and land development. Mr. Moore has invited the Skal Congress to hold its 22nd session in Ceylon in 1961.

**T**HE chairman of the Tona-combe Estate Co. of Ceylon Ltd. states in his annual report, that the estimated revenue the Government will receive by way of export duty, sales tax, income and divided taxes from the company for 1959 is Rs. 1,038,000, the shareholders will get as nett dividend only Rs. 171,500, that is about one-sixth the Government receives without any capital investment. Says the chairman: It will be seen how wide the margin is between the sums received by the Government and the share-holders and how heavy the burden of taxation rests upon the plantation industries in Ceylon.

**T**HE Tea Propaganda Board has made representations to the Ministry of Commerce on the dangers of releasing refuse tea for sale. It has stated that, despite all measures taken by the Government, it would not be possible to prevent unscrupulous dealers substituting refuse teas in the shipments to overseas markets. This will gravely affect the reputation of Ceylon tea.

**"T**HE Financial Times" recently challenged the suggestion that tea in the U.K. was losing some ground to coffee, though the latter claim is endorsed by the latest figures published by the Commonwealth Economic Committee. An editorial in the "Financial Times" stated that figures could be misleading and it could well be wrong to imagine

that tea has even begun to lose its hold as the staple drink in British homes. Much of the increased coffee drinking arose from popularity of coffee bars and the social amenities they offered. Coffee sales of this kind were more likely to compete with those of beer than those of tea, as brewers admitted.

The editorial continued that, roughly, the static level of tea consumption by weight concealed the fact that much more money was spent on tea now. During the war years, housewives started buying smaller quantities of better tea which gave more cups to the pound. This became a habit in post-war years and the average quality of tea now sold in Britain was better than pre-war.

**A** NEW programme to stimulate the publication in English of works by Asian writers has been announced by the Asia Society in the United States of America. The society hopes to serve as a catalyst, encouraging existing organisations to increase their output of Asian material. It noted that more Asian material was appearing in American books and magazines today than was the case ten years ago, but that a greater placement was desirable.

Liaison between American publishers and literary agents and Asian writers and publishers would be provided by the society, the emphasis being on material with a broad readership potential rather than on scholarly works. The programme seeks to provide more material for readers who have no specialised training or professional interest in Asia but who desire to read Asian material for information or pleasure.

**T**HE recent expansion in hire purchase business in Ceylon has been criticised by the British banker, Mr. Vincent Alpe Grantham, Chairman of the Chartered Bank. Commenting on the adverse trade balance and the continued fall in Ceylon's external assets, he said that measures taken to reverse the present steep downward trend have so far been completely ineffective and the growth of hire purchase of imported consumer goods aggravates the situation.



## MATTERS OF MOMENT

In his annual survey to be presented to stock-holders Mr. Grantham says that Ceylon's future outlook is poor indeed unless the country obtains a government with a working majority sufficient to cope successfully with the many problems which have accumulated.

It is significant, he says, that in Ceylon's estimate for the current year's budget no allowance has been made for expenditure under the ten-year development plan, which gives some indication of the financial deterioration that has taken place. With the government's borrowing on Treasury bills "on an unrealistic rate of interest", it would not, with the situation as it is, be possible for it to float a loan at a reasonable rate of interest to fund this debt. He pays a tribute to the producing and mercantile communities which in the circumstances, by adopting a "business as usual" policy have been able to maintain the trade of Ceylon despite unrest and strikes.

**P**OLITICS, not to mention labour troubles, continued to bedevil Ceylon, "this otherwise fortunate island", throughout 1959, said the Chairman of the National and Grindlay's Bank in London, in his statement of the bank's activities for last year. He described the present situation in the island as an uneasily balanced truce, pending the holding of an election, and hoped that when it was held the air would be cleared and, concomitantly, the way to a firm economic policy. He described the rise of half per cent. in the Central Bank rate announced last December as a fleeting gesture as it was rescinded on Christmas Day. He added that a restriction of imports and a higher bank rate would yet be inevitable parts of a firmer economic policy.

**A** TRADE Ministry communique issued on March 11 said that since the lifting of import control on watches from Switzerland, 66 importers had obtained licences of Rs. 100,000/ each and over in value and out of this number 14 were newcomers to the trade. In addition there were a further 48 new licencees who had secured licences less than Rs. 100,000 each in value. Earlier there had been 138 exclusive licence holders of watches

out of whom three had allocations of Rs. 500,000 each or over. The bulk of the allocation had been held by only three importers as a result of which, the communique said, the local prices for watches had been kept at a high level in the past.

The communique added that it was reliably learnt that the premium secured earlier on import licences from Switzerland was not obtaining now. Consequent to the present policy of issuing licences more liberally for importation of watches from Switzerland, it was expected that the local prices of watches would drop further, when stocks start arriving on the additional licences issued since lifting of import control on February 3 last.

**O**VER three million votes were cast at the general elections held last Saturday.

The total number of votes polled was 3,129,246 in the 145 electorates throughout the island. According to the election authorities there are 3,724,507 registered voters.

The United National Party, which topped the list, received 907,036 votes, while the S.L.F.P. received 711,452 votes. The Federal Party obtained 176,452 votes.

**W**ITH the standard of English in schools "deteriorating rapidly," the Department of Education has adopted appropriate, if rather belated, action in deciding to obtain a team of specialists from England for teacher-training colleges. The decision was taken following a conference of principals of training colleges.

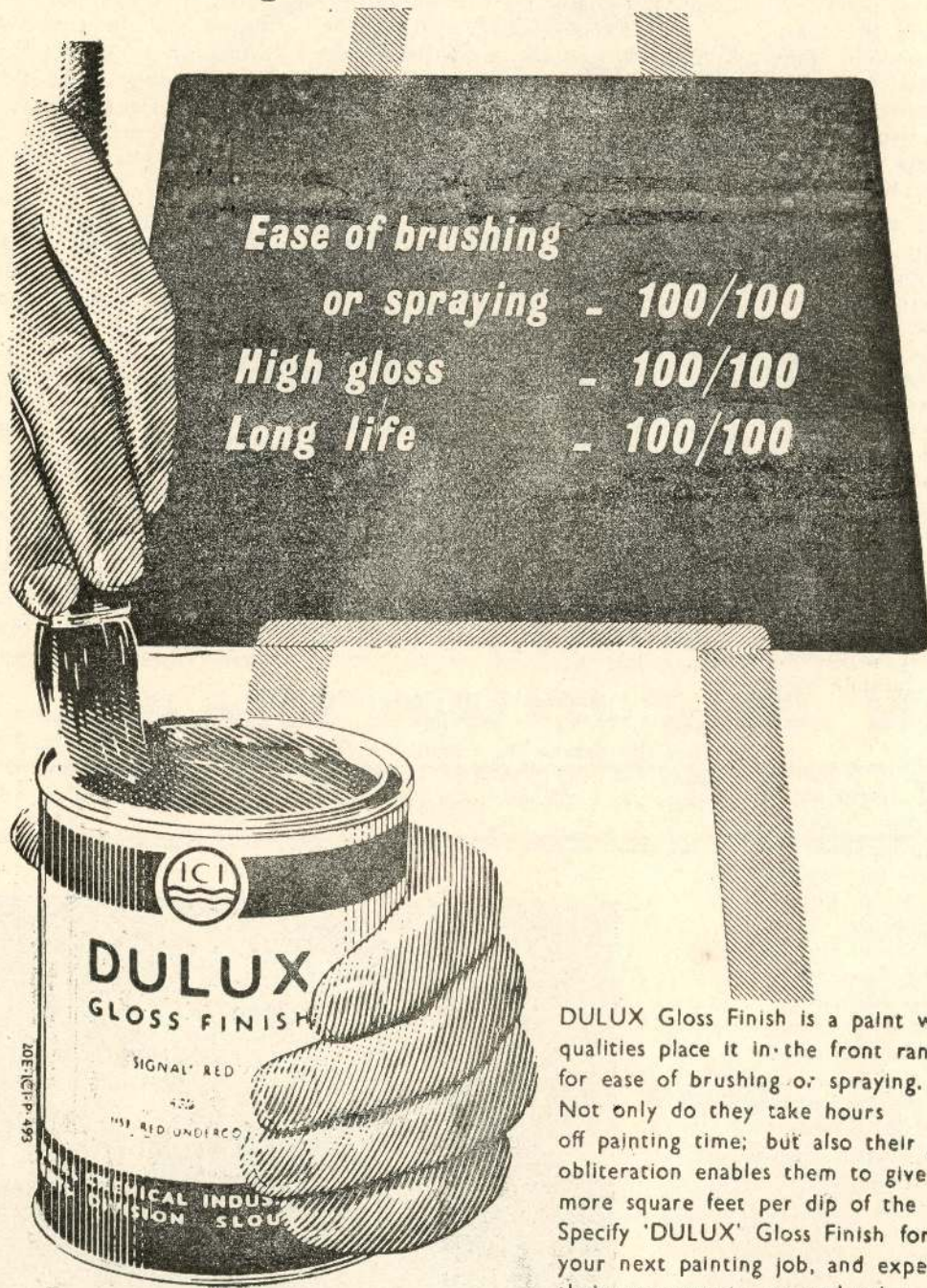
The object of the scheme is to train teachers of English at the primary level. The training colleges have adequate staff to teach English, but it is recognised that they require specialised training.

The British Council has undertaken to supply the books needed for the training course, which will start in September.



*Mr. Herbert Morrison, 71, Labour Party elder statesman and former British Foreign Secretary, was made a life peer (Baron) by Queen Elizabeth in an honours list of four names issued for the dissolution of Parliament. Mr. Morrison was Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons 1945-51 and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, March to October, 1951.*

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# THE GENERAL ELECTION

—By CROSS-BENCHER—

THE General Election on March 19th was, as anticipated, a memorable one, in many ways. First of all, it was an absolutely peaceful one, believing all the fears that led to the extraordinary security measures that were taken. It is to be hoped that armed Police will never again be seen at polling booths. It was a provocative measure which might well have aroused resentment.

Secondly the election produced a record poll, confounding the critics who said that the voters had been so pampered in the past by transport being provided for them that many would refuse to find their own way to the polling booths. Not only in urban areas, where public transport was available, but in the remotest villages where they had to walk two and three miles sometimes, voters demonstrated that they valued the right of the franchise.

This expression of the political maturity of the people was enhanced by the final result of the poll. It is true that the immediate result was a virtual stalemate in that the two most successful parties were separated by only a few votes. But comparison of the final position of the various parties with that in the previous general election furnishes illuminating information.

\* \* \*

THE U.N.P., which, after nine years in office, was almost wiped out in 1956, returned to favour with 50 seats. What was the reason for the swing back to the right? Chiefly, of course, the ceaseless conflict within the last coalition government, which proceeded from crisis to crisis culminating in the assassination of the Prime Minister, Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike. That the U.N.P. as a party survived at all was due a great deal to the faith in it of Mr. J.R. Jayewardene, who was foremost in keeping up the flagging spirit of its members. Then with the dissolution of Parliament came the intensive campaign carried on by a reinvigorated leader in Mr. Dudley Senanayake. The party machine was also well operated by those responsible for it.

\* \* \*

IF the U. N. P. failed to secure an over-all majority, it was the influence left on a section of the elec-

torate by Mr. Bandaranaike that was responsible for it. He had sown the seed of democratic socialism on good ground, and when he was no longer there to nurture it along came his widow, in disregard of tradition and custom, so soon after his death, to back the party with her own appearance at the hustings. It is a tragedy that the two parties have no meeting ground, for were they to coalesce it would mean a long period of tranquillity and prosperity to the country. Until polarization of the right and the left takes place Ceylon must reconcile itself to weak governments.

\* \* \*

THE general election is noteworthy for the almost complete rejection of the left. A contributory cause no doubt was the division amongst the left parties themselves, highly regarded though their leaders are. It is as if in the popular mind the left is seen as more destructive than constructive in outlook. For them to have a chance of showing their worth, unity in their ranks is indispensable. As long as that is absent they have to confine themselves to the role of critics of the government and express themselves in activities of an obstructionist description, which in the event redounds to their own disadvantage.

The sad fate of most of the members of the caretaker government and the candidates of Mr. Dahanayake's new party, the L.P.P., is not inexplicable. The electorate clearly indicated that they would not tolerate political adventurers. Most significant from this point of view is the slaughter of the Independent candidates. They have, it to be hoped, been taught a salutary lesson.

In the retention of its strength by the Federal Party is reflected the conservatism of the Tamil people. How they can press their claims to a successful conclusion is obscure. At the same time no government could afford to ignore the standpoint of the party so perseveringly urged.

\* \* \*

SEVERAL men long in public life have been swept into obscurity in the general election, besides Mr. Dahanayake, whose tenure of

the office of caretaker Prime Minister seems to have been fatal to him. Chief among them were Mr. C. Suntheralingam, scholar and member of the Indian civil service, Professor of Mathematics, and minister in the first national cabinet of Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, also a member of Mr. D. S. Senanayake's cabinet and successful lawyer and leader of Jaffna youth, Dr. Colvin R. de Silva, Q.C., deputy leader of the LSSP, leading lawyer and orator. One can only regard their exit as meaning that the awakened electorate has no patience with sound and fury meaning nothing. Politics in Ceylon loses some of its colour with their relegation to limbo, but in the rising generation there are bound to be imitators of them who might also bring a more purposeful contribution to public life.

\* \* \*

ALL in all the Ceylonese electorate can congratulate itself on its performance in the general election of 1960, the organization of which was a magnificent accomplishment on the part of the executive staff. The electors have shown an awareness of democracy and an appreciation of the working of democratic institutions which vindicates the high place which this small country has already earned in international affairs. Let us hope that the nation will have as its reward a government which by its domestic and foreign policies will enhance its prestige.

\* \* \*

IN forming his government the Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, has been fortunate to be able to count on several tried and tested men. Of his Cabinet of 12 (including himself), he has already distributed portfolios to seven. Five of the ministers have previous experience of office. They are: Mr. J. R. Jayawardene (Finance, Information and Broadcasting, Local Government and Housing), Mr. M. D. Banda (Agriculture and Lands, Food, Commerce and Trade), Dr. M.C.M. Kaleel (Home Affairs and Rural Development), Mr. M. Jayewickrema (Nationalised Services, Shipping and Transport, Posts, Works and Power) and Mr. B. H. Aluwihare (Education and Cultural Affairs, Labour, Industries and Fisheries). Two newcomers are Senator E. J. Cooray, who becomes Minister of Justice and Senator M. V. P. Peiris, Minister of Health.

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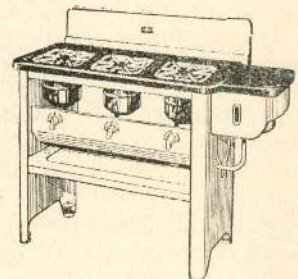
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# THE FIRST TASK OF THE GOVERNMENT

## UNEMPLOYMENT MUST BE ARRESTED

—By "PARAGOT"—

A COMMON expectation before the General Election was that whatever party came to power would be able to establish stability in the country. The reason for this feeling is plain. Industrial unrest, brought about largely by trade union conflict, handicapped the late Mr. Bandaranaike in giving effect to his plans for economic development. The result was growing unemployment until the record figure of 128,018 was reached at the end of 1959.

Mr. Bandaranaike's assassination caused a lull in trade union activity, chiefly because the political parties with which most trade unions were associated had to marshal their forces for the General Election. Most significant was the restoration of unity amongst plantation workers, almost all of whom had been divided between two big unions. In the commercial sector, public and private, also party leaders were too pre-occupied with election propaganda to pursue union objectives. In any case, with Parliament not functioning agitation of any description would have been futile.

HOW long the industrial peace that preceded the General Election will last depends on the programme the new government places before the country through Parliament. The prevailing conditions are, however, favourable for the government to deal with unemployment, which undoubtedly is the first question to which it should give its attention.

A breakdown of the unemployment figure is revealing. Males unemployed number 110,736. Of the total 20,869 seek technical and clerical jobs; 13,859 are skilled workers, 33,723 semi-skilled and 59,567 unskilled. It has to be remembered that a proportion of those who register at the employment exchanges look for better jobs. On the other hand, many do not bother to register at all, either because they are too far away from exchanges or are content to be

dependent on relatives. Moreover, the semi-employed in rural areas are not reckoned with at all.

A tragic army is the 40,000 or so J.S.C. and S.S.C.-qualified youths who are without work, some of whom are probably on the register. It has been estimated that if they were not choosy and accepted any work that is going it would yet take seven years to clear the backlog alone. In the meantime the number is being annually added to.

IN considering the question of the unemployed, what is inexplicable is that every year some thirty per cent of budgeted votes remains unexpended. Why is it that money is not spent and labour is idle when, for example, the state of our main roads is going from bad to worse and the building of houses is far behind the demand? The administration of the works departments obviously requires scrutiny.

Unemployment and semi-employment in rural areas has been to some extent met by the opening of new land, but the measure has not led to any appreciable increase in the production of food, which should be the only justification for the enormous expenditure incurred. The advantages of intensive as against extensive cultivation have received less thought because political more than economic considerations have influenced policy in the past. A new outlook in this field is imperative.

EXPANSION of industry alone will, it is acknowledged, wipe out unemployment. But what are the industries we should go in for? In a considered statement he made at the Union College prize-giving Dr. A. Sundralingam, Director of the Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research, advocated medium-scale enterprises covering varied types of manufacture, and chiefly for the home market, rather than a few big industries, in the context of the human and material

resources of Jaffna. What he said applies by and large to the rest of Ceylon as well. Indeed this is the course industrial development has taken so far.

One of the points Dr. Sundralingam stressed as making for success in industry is efficient marketing. To failure in this respect could be ascribed the fact that so many of our nascent industries are languishing, except cement, where the demand is greater than the output. Why should the Ceramics and the Paper Corporations have to undertake the sale of their products themselves. Why should not the services of appropriate organizations be availed of? Is the expense of maintaining the Ceylon Products shop in the Fort warranted when it deals only in cottage industries, with greengrocery as a casual sideline? Again should the Industries Department have to run its own establishment for the sale of its products. Why should not all these goods be handled by, say, the C.W.E., which has made a successful invasion of the Fort with the lines for which it holds the agency?

WITH such industries as have already been set going, by increasing the body of consumers by proper marketing a considerable proportion of the unemployed could surely be absorbed. For the rest planning is indispensable—in the educational sphere for the training of the necessary skills and in the economic for the control of imports in order to promote local production.

The bane of this country has been the ease with which it has been possible to obtain experts from foreign sources but whose recommendations have often been useless because they were based on standards with which they were familiar but which had little relation to Ceylon. Is it not time that the knowledge and experience of men and women born and bred in the Island who have acquired expertise was turned to practical account? Let us make a start with proper employment of accomplishments at the top to prepare the ground for employment of talent at the bottom.

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# HOW TIMES CHANGE

—BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON—

(Fortnightly Review Special)

**WHAT** brighter thought-for-the-day could Britain's women wish for in Leap Year than that recently propounded in an Economic and Social Research Foundation lecture in Westminster Abbey by the Reverend Harold S. Goodwin?

Because of the general affluence, he said, more women than ever can now wear the latest fashions. At one time, he pointed out, the new fashions could be fully observed only over a comparatively small area—at such “exclusive” places as the Royal Ascot racecourse, at Henley-on-Thames for the now international Royal Regatta, and at Lord's Cricket Ground and the traditional summer art exhibition at the Royal Academy, London.

“Modern prosperity has changed all that,” said Mr. Goodwin. “Ordinary folk can now afford to be devotees of fashion... Every modest social gathering becomes an Ascot, or a Henley or a Lord's”.

\* \* \*

## Men Are Not So Scarce.

**M**R. Goodwin has put into words what most of us have been observing for some time. Girls in all income groups were never better dressed than now. And this is Leap Year, when—on February 29, at least—they are traditionally permitted to “pop” the marriage question to men. Ironically, perhaps, the year 1960 finds them less in need of fashion aids to attract the errant male.

Man has lost his scarcity value. The last Statistical Report of the United Kingdom Registrar General showed, for the first time on record, that Britain's men in the marriageable age group between 20 and 29 are beginning to outnumber the girls.

How times change. But times never stop changing, though it does look as if this Leap Year sees more transformations than the normal.

Take one instance, the Fleur de Lys inn in that famous English cathedral city of Canterbury. For years, pilgrims and other travellers have sought refreshment in this ancient hostelry in the High Street.

Now, there has opened, on its site, a cafe specialising in beef hamburgers and milk shakes. And what would pilgrims who, for centuries past, put up for a night in London on their way to Canterbury think of the £1,000,000 hotel, the President? Scheduled for completion in 1961 in Bloomsbury, a great London haunt for overseas visitors, the President will have each of its 450 bedrooms fitted with television and stereophonic radio.

\* \* \*

## Perturbed About Noise

**I**MMORTALISED by the English poet Chaucer in the 14th century, the Canterbury pilgrims went on foot. Their successors in Leap Year, 1960, swish around in automobiles—there is one for every 11½ people in the United Kingdom—and one of the penalties for such locomotion is enough noise to have set the Canterbury pilgrims running for their lives. Not that the cars themselves are necessarily noisy. But they help to create noise through the resultant traffic congestion and the expansion of noise-making industries.

That a Government Committee is being set up “to examine the nature sources and effects of the problems of noise” has given immense satisfaction to Britain's new Noise Abatement Society. Already the Society can boast 14,000,000 members, not as individuals but through representation by the 200 local authorities which have joined it. These include the Corporation of the City of London and the London County Council.

A Noise Abatement Bill introduced by a private member is to have a second reading in Parliament in March. It is designed to give local authorities power to take action against the noise nuisance.

\* \* \*

## New “Tube” Trains

**E**VERY little helps. I enjoyed my ride the other morning in one of London's new Silver-Ghost type underground trains fitted with rubber suspension to cut out noise and vibration. Visitors to London next summer will notice a transformation

on the famous “Tube” railways. Seventy-six of the new trains, costing £10,000,000 will eventually be gliding silently and snakelike deep down below the city streets, relieving traffic congestion by carrying 15 per cent. more passengers than the present rolling-stock. The trains have weight-saving unpainted aluminium bodies, fluorescent lighting, and a maroon and dovegrey colour scheme inside.

The London Underground system has the longest tunnel in the world, 17¼ miles (27.5 kilometres) from East Finchley to Morden by way of Bank. For many years, though, Britain's longest was the 4½ miles (seven kilometres) railway tunnel under the River Severn. It has just come into the news again because the 73-years-old beam engines pumping 10,000,000 gallons (45,500,000 litres) of water daily out of the tunnel are to be replaced by electrical machinery. The beam type was one of the earliest forms of steam engine and these must be among the last still working in Britain, if not in the world.

Progress will not be denied, but we can still wish good luck to the Cornish Beam Engine Preservation Society in its appeal for funds to transfer these noble veterans to a museum.

## Amalgamation of Two Leading Colombo Firms

**M**ESSRS. Keell & Waldock Ltd., the well known firm of Brokers, have made arrangements to amalgamate with Messrs. E. John, Thompson, White & Co., Ltd., from the first day of April, 1960, as from which date the name of the combined business will be altered to John, Keell, Thompson, White Ltd. The amalgamation will necessitate the voluntary liquidation of Keell & Waldock Ltd.

Messrs. N. D. G. Greene and M. S. Murdoch, two of the Directors of Keell & Waldock Ltd., will be retiring on the 23rd and 31st March, 1960, respectively, and the remaining Directors, namely, Messrs. A. G. R. Willis, M. C. Bostock, K. B. Atkin and R. C. Pyman will join the Board of the amalgamated Company on the 1st April, 1960. The present staff of Messrs. Keell & Waldock will continue in the employment of the amalgamated Company.

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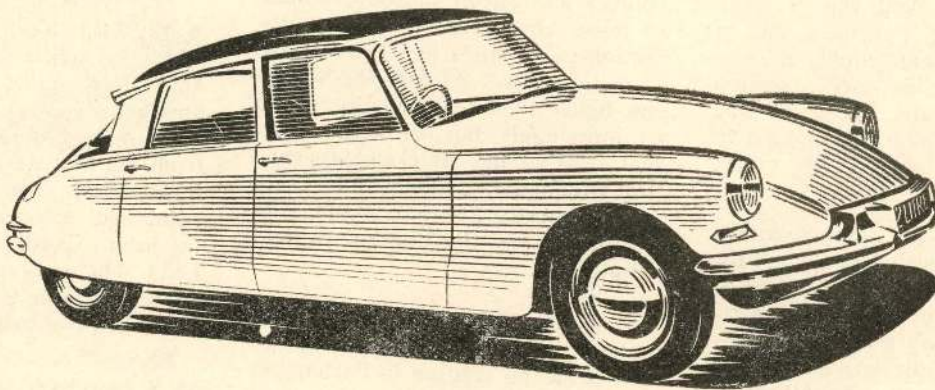
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## A LETTER FROM MR. W. T. GRESWELL

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

Taunton, March 16

SINCE I wrote my last letter to you, the Third and Fourth Tests between M.C.C. and the West Indians have been grimly and tediously argued out, with no decision reached in either. England stands one up with one to play, in the light of unexpected circumstances a fully fortunate position. The luckless Peter May is flying home in a day or two while Brian Statham too is returning, having had an urgent request from his wife owing to the serious illness of their six-year-old son, who is asking for his father.

Thus England is deprived of one who was recently, and may still be, the world's finest batsman and of the most brilliant and controlled fast bowler of modern times. The sympathies of all cricket lovers will be with the England skipper. It will be remembered that his English season was cut short by a month last year as he had to undergo an internal operation. The truth is now out and many will say that he should never have accepted to go to the West Indies. Early in the tour his operation wound opened and he could only play at all by having it frequently dressed by a local doctor. His team mates knew nothing about this as he kept his visits to the doctor secret. This is typical of May and his sense of duty to the side as their leader. He must have suffered much both mentally and physically and yet he refused to give in until ordered by doctors to come home.

IT may be remembered that Len Hutton, who led the last M.C.C. side to West Indies, returned home in poor health. I spoke to him at Taunton, where he was not playing for Yorkshire against Somerset owing to persistent back trouble. But what was obvious to me was that he was under severe mental strain. It was the start of the setting of this great star, though he managed to lead the England side to Australia the following Winter.

Might the writing be on the wall for Peter May? We all hope that it may not be so, but he has borne the burden and the heat of the day

for England for some years now and with it the most exacting duties of captain. We must not forget that he is human.

AS a side—light on May's condition in the present tour the surprising incident in the Third Test may be remembered when contrary to the provisions of Law 2, May refused to allow a runner substitute for the injured Kanhai, who was carrying the fading hopes of victory of his side but could only hobble up and down the wicket. May after the match discovered his error and made apologies to Alexander, but the incident, I feel convinced, was greatly the result of May's ill-health and mental strain and consequent clouded judgment.

THIS tour in the West Indies has done nothing to enhance the popularity of cricket in the eyes of spectators, who after all are the financial life blood of the game. The score cards show some great individual feats of batting but do not show the batting time, which is the crux of the matter. Let praise be given to Sobers alone who must indeed be in the running for a world master batsman. Who in Australia will emulate him? Your guess is as good as mine. I would suggest O'Neill.

The West Indian tour has brought to the front once more the deliberate bowling of fast bumpers for the sole purpose of intimidating batsmen and particularly the early and best batsmen, who, being experts, play their strokes with heads well over the line of the ball. As practised by Hall and Watson it is a dangerous and degrading travesty of the game and must be ruled out, or else our batsmen must take the field dressed with all the massive padding of baseball players with the addition of fencing masks.

YESTERDAY the matter was discussed at the annual meeting at Lord's of the Advisory County Cricket Committee and the Board of Control. It was felt that the game in this country was being conducted satisfactorily and would continue to be so. The matter

of bumpers will be raised later this year at an Imperial Cricket Conference due to take place in London. But action must be taken.

I have read a suggestion by I. A. R. Peebles, who is reporting for the "Sunday Times", that if a bowler persists in bowling bumpers after a first warning by the umpire, the latter may "call" each subsequent ball thus bowled and the scorer must add ten runs to the batting side's score for every offending ball. An admirable idea I think, if it is workable and if umpires are given full moral support (to save them from murder or sudden death!)

Cricket is once more in the air here in England, in the softening air of early Spring with birds singing at early dawn and primroses and daffodils aflame in hedgerows and woodlands. Practice is in progress in in-door schools, a useless preparation but good enough for limbering up until grass wickets are firm enough.

This season in the University vacation the Indian Oxford Blue, Abbas Ali Baig will be playing for Somerset. He had been qualified for Somerset last year but was released so as to play for the Indians over here. I have not yet seen this diminutive little crafts-man bat, but he has already done great things last year. He has the quick eye and feet and snappy wrist work of a Ranji, if reports are correct.

Did readers notice that last February W. Grout, the Queensland and Australian Test wicket-keeper, playing in a Sheffield Shield match against West Australia, caught eight catches in one innings. This is an all-time first-class record, though on several occasions a wicket keeper has dismissed seven batsmen, caught or stumped. I hope that the grateful bowlers made Grout a presentation, perhaps a new pair of gauntlets for England next year.

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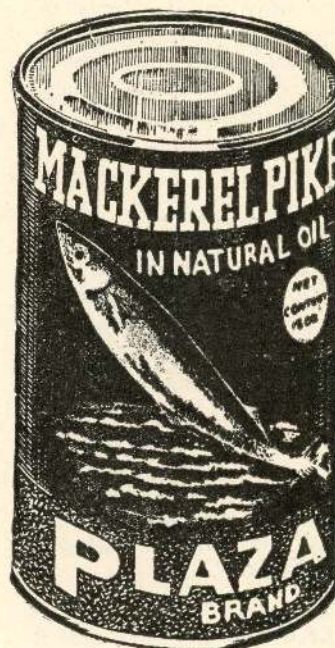
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# PEOPLE YOU MEET ON SHIP

—BY STUART O'RIORDAN—

(Fortnightly Review Special)

ON our voyages to and from Ceylon, Gerbera and I have enjoyed the society of many types of passengers and ship's personnel; while they in their turn have endured us with fortitude amounting at times to beatitude.

My first experience of fellow voyagers was without Gerbera's support. She had been left on the Albert Dock alternately sobbing into and waving her handkerchief; while I stood by the stern rail of the East Indiaman trying to feel the confidence of a modern Warren Hastings going forth to carve out a fortune in the Orient for us both. Actually I had nothing very sharp with which to do the carving, and after 25 years in the East am still ranked several places below Warren.

But as I stood in the ship's stern, I succeeded only in feeling as I did on my first day at the old school, when, supremely unimportant and small, I passed the porter's gate amidst hundreds of indifferent young faces, and shed my hard earned mantle of a Prep. school "blood" aged thirteen and three quarters.

By Jove, how we valued those quarters!

BUT now the strange indifferent faces were those of my fellow passengers, and I realised on our first day in the Channel that this was to be no rollicking affair. Those five other beings who set forth with me were not, however, quite normal. I felt afterwards that I should have been warned, for this was the glummiest voyage that ever was voyaged. It might indeed, have affected me adversely for evermore.

After all, one may accidentally get mixed up for a couple of streets with a funeral procession while on a bicycle or in a car: but the voyage of the s.s. Beri Beri was like going to a cemetery for 7,000 miles.

The main body of us consisted of a huge middle-aged taciturn man with intimidating pince-nez half an inch thick; and with him throughout the day and apparently the night as well were two equally huge taciturn men.

In addition to these distributors of gloom was the wife of the massive pebble-glassed man and his spinster sister, whose faces wore expressions of such sadness and resignation as, in my youthful opinion, could only have been justified had the vessel been actually sinking.

## A Peculiar Tribe

I did my best to be friendly with this peculiar tribe, but there was nothing to be done. Then I arrived at the conclusion that the unhappy looking wife of him whom I now thought of as Pebble-eye was dying of some slow and incurable disease; but on passing the dining saloon, somewhat greenly in the midst of rough weather, I saw her eating three fried eggs and two rashers of bacon.

So I transferred my theories and sympathy to her sister. But here again I was disappointed when I came across her in the "gym"s—kirt and bloomers of those days doing fiercely physical exercises in a secluded part of the deck. She was doing the "on the hands down" exercise at the moment of my intrusion, and I well remember that in my embarrassment I rushed down the nearest companion-way and found myself in the engine room.

It was then that I felt that the right solution had dawned on me. Why of course! Old Pebble-Eye must be a mental case. That was why he shared a cabin with the two other large grim men. They must be male nurses. No doubt, if left to his own devices he would become violent and throw his wife through the port-hole. Not, mark you, that this would prove insanity.

However, by degrees I lost interest in the miserable five.

THE mystery however was finally unravelled for me the night before we reached Colombo by my friend and mentor the Chief Engineer, who explained that poor Old Pebble-Eye was being extradited from England to the East for some frightful fraud he had committed. The male attendants were plain clothes chaps very much on duty and had to see that poor old Pebble-Eye

didn't put himself through a port-hole.

Still it was hard that the s.s. Beri Beri had to pick on me for my maiden voyage.

## Lesser of Two Evils.

YET I will admit it peeved me a bit when Gerbera came out to join me, in a ship that seems to have been pure musical comedy. When I climbed aboard to welcome her, the Captain was busy kissing all his better looking female passengers good-bye. Somehow, all the solid and worthy ladies got left to the Chief Officer and Purser to cope with.

It seemed that this Captain was a very patriarchal sort of sailor, and that all the voyage, Gerbera and one or two other young grass widows were allowed to use the bridge for drinking tea, gossiping and drying their hair: with a little light steering thrown in if there were no rocks about.

HOWEVER, I soon perceived that the fatherly Captain was much the lesser of two evils: because to my jealous uxorious eyes the male section of Gerbera's fellow travellers seemed to be composed entirely of Ronald Colemans on their way to Shangri-La.

On our latter voyages we often travelled with types much more peculiar than ourselves, at least, so we thought. On one trip there was a retired actress with a red wig. I was getting on with her famously and would never have known about the wig if Gerbera hadn't enlightened me: which I suppose was just as well, as I should have been rather put out if I had got to know her well enough to find out for myself.

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## PEOPLE

IT is with regret that we record the death of Canon Edwin Basil Redlich, which occurred on 6th February, four days after his eighty-fourth birthday, at Coventry Road, Market Harborough, Leicester, after a short illness. Canon Redlich won the Ceylon University Scholarship in 1896, being the first Wesleyite to gain this coveted honour. Basil Redlich went up to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he graduated and won the Porson Prize for English Essay. It is interesting to mention that several years earlier another Ceylon man, the late Venerable Archdeacon F. Lorenz Beven, won the same prize at Cambridge. While at Wesley, Basil Redlich not only distinguished himself as a scholar but won his colours for cricket and soccer. That was the period when Wesley counted many excellent cricketers, the most famous of them in later years being C. E. Perera.

CANON Redlich had spent sixteen years in the ministry when he became Vicar of St. Nicholas', Little Bowden, in 1924, a post which he was to hold till 1955, being much loved both within and beyond his parish. He was Canon Theologian of Leicester from 1932 to 1955. According to the Bishop of Leicester he was an outstanding scholar in Biblical subjects. 'Crockford' lists twelve books as coming from his pen. He passed the last years of his life in great weakness, but in great peace. In a tribute by Canon Ramsey at a memorial service he said—"It seems fitting at this time to remember Canon Redlich's

two sons, Vivien who died as a martyr during the second World War in Papua, and Peter, the little boy whose life was lost in a drowning accident.

MRS. Basil Redlich writing to her niece Mrs. A. I. E. de Kretser of Kuttapitiya Estate, Pelmadulla,



"Fraser of Trinity"

*Living at Berkeley Square, the M.R.A. Headquarters in London, Rev. A. G. Fraser, former Principal of Trinity College, Kandy, now in his 87th year, is, according to one who saw him recently, very much in touch with current affairs in Ceylon. His sense of humour is undiminished by pain and discomfort.*

says that the funeral services was held in the Church of St. Nicholas', Little Bowden, and was conducted by the Bishop of Leicester. Following the service the cremation took place at Kettering the ashes being laid

to rest beneath the window dedicated to his late son Peter in the chapel of St. Nicholas' Church. Besides his widow, Canon Redlich leaves two sons, Patrick in Barbados and Nigel, besides two daughters, Mrs. Sigurd Christinsen of Copenhagen and Diana; and in Ceylon Mrs. Esme Redlich and Mrs. Eileen Redlich, sisters-in-law, and Messrs. George V. Cooke and C. C. Cannon, brothers-in-law.

MRS. Ada Doudney, widow of R. P. Doudney, pioneer coconut planter of the Eastern Province, leaves for England on March 25th after a lifetime spent in Ceylon. She will eventually make her home in Eire with her younger son, Mr. Herbert V. A. Doudney, of Karandupona, Kegalla, who has gone on retirement. Her elder son is Mr. R. Arthur Doudney of Wavahena, Punduloya.

Mrs. Doudney was born and bred in the Batticaloa District and until lately lived on her property, Mylambaveli, seven miles north of Batticaloa. She was 80 on March 15th.

THE death is reported at Brightlinges, Sussex, of Mrs. Hugh (Tamby) Alfred Frowd McLaren, formerly of Gikiyana kande, Neboda.

MR. C. Miller and Mr. W. M. P. Lloyd, Manager Director and Director of Messrs E. John, Thompson, White & Co. Ltd., have retired from the firm.

A specialist from Ceylon will be among those attending a course on "Recent Advances in the Study of Animal Reproduction" which opened at Cambridge on March 14. He is Mr. S. A.J.E. Perera of the Government Veterinary Hospital, Peradeniya, who is at present studying artificial insemination at the Ministry of Agriculture's cattle breeding centre, Shinfield, Reading. He is in Britain under the Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme. The course is designed for experts and aims at presenting a scientific account of recent research in animal reproduction, with special reference to farm animals, together with some of its practical applications. It is organised by the British Council. The course will be divided into two parts. The first period, from March 14 to 23, will be spent in Cambridge, and the second part, from March 24 to 26, at Shinfield.

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PEOPLE

**T**WO Ceylon officer cadets now studying at Britain's Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, hope to join the Armoured Corps after their passing out Parade this summer. They are Senior Cadet A. H. U. N. Weerakoon, and Senior Cadet H. C. Zavahir. They entered Sandhurst two years ago from Nalanda Vidyalaya and Wesley College respectively.

Cadets Weerakoon and Zavahir are keen sportsmen—Weerakoon is an all-rounder with the cricket team, and Zavahir is vice-captain of the boxing team. So far he has won eight bouts in a row as a feather weight.

\* \* \*

**M**R. Fredric March, well-known American film star spent a week holidaying in Ceylon recently, visiting the up-country and the ruined cities.

\* \* \*

**M**R. E. J. P. Stork, Asst. Collector, H. M. Customs, Mrs. Stork and their two daughters, Christine and Alex, left for Australia on the Orion, on 23rd February, to be present at the marriage of their son, Christopher, with Miss Dorothy Kelaart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kelaart, who live in Melbourne. Mr. and Mrs. Stork expect to be away for three months.

\* \* \*

**D**R. A. L. Basham, Professor of the History of South Asia at the University of London, paid a short visit to Ceylon in the last week in February.

Professor Basham is the author of "The Wonder That Was India", and an authority on ancient oriental cultures. He was attached to the staff of the University of Ceylon some years ago. He is now on a tour of universities in the sub-continent to have discussions with history lecturers.

\* \* \*

**M**R. C. H. Woutersz has retired from the public service, where he served for 42 years. Joining the Audit Department in 1918, he was transferred to the Customs as Assistant Preventive Officer in 1927, became Assistant Charges Officer in 1936 and was promoted Charges Officer in 1955. He also held the position of Customs Auctioneer in the baggage office and has turned over a million rupees to the Crown

from the auctions. He has received commendations for good work from no less than five Principal Collectors of Customs. A keen volunteer soldier, he joined the Colombo House Guard as a guardsman in 1917 and he was appointed 1st Regimental Sgt. Major of the Ceylon Engineers.

\* \* \*

**C**EYLON'S High Commissioner in London, Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, and the Educational Attache, Mr. T. G. Abeyasinghe, represented Ceylon at a conference on "Teachers for the Commonwealth", held in London on Tuesday, February 23. The chairman was Britain's Minister of Education, Sir David Eccles.

Among those giving addresses were Mrs. V. L. Pandit, High Com-

missioner for India, and the Minister of State, Commonwealth Relations Office, Mr. C. J. M. Alport.

\* \* \*

**T**HE Venerable Soma Thero of Vajirarama died on February 23, following an attack of coronary thrombosis. He was 62 years of age. He was ordained a Buddhist monk in 1936 after renouncing Catholicism and visited a number of foreign countries to propagate Buddhism. Among the countries he visited in this connexion were Germany, India, China, Hong Kong and Singapore.

He was the author of a number of books on Buddhism and translated several Buddhist texts into English.

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# ART, MUSIC & DRAMA

— By LYRICUS —

**T**HE International Theatre Group, one of Colombo's most talented group of amateur actors, turn from hilarious comedy "See How They Run", their last production, to a famous thriller, Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Niggers" for their next performance, which begins at the Lionel Wendt Theatre on March 28. The first night is a Benefit Performance in aid of the Colombo Boy Scouts Association. The play runs nightly till April 3.

George Willis is in charge of the production and the "victims" are Fred Staddon, Anne Willis, Andrew David, Marjorie Mc Lean, Ted

Ray, Leslie Pierson, Pat Moore, Kay Staddon, Ernest Charles, Gregory Fletcher and David Hickman.

**T**HE popular American jazz group, Red Nichols and his "Five Pennies" arrived in Colombo on March 21 to give two shows daily at the Empire Theatre on March 22, 26 and 30, a performance at Galle on March 24 and one at Kandy on March 28. They are on a ten-nation concert tour of the Middle East and Asia. The visit is sponsored by the American National Theatre and Academy and Ceylon Theatres Ltd.

Nichols, "Emperor of Dixieland Jazz", developed an interest in this type of music by listening to the original Dixieland Jazz Band records which were popular in the United States in '20s. His devotion to this jazz beat is well known in the U.S. and throughout the world as a result of thousands of personal appearances

and the hundreds of records he has recorded. Among the prominent band-leaders who have appeared in the group early in their careers are Glen Miller, Harry James, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Joe Venuti, Jack Teagarden, Benny Goodman and Gene Krupa.

From Colombo, Nichols and his group fly to London for a series of performances in the British Isles.

**R**OHAN de Saram, Ceylon's brilliant young Cellist, has been paid a unique honour by America: he has been invited to play with the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra on four consecutive days next year. The conductor will be Mitropoulos and Mr. de Saram will play four concertos on January 5, 6, 7, and 8. Mr. de Saram comes home to Ceylon this summer when he is expected to give a concert in Colombo.

**"A**LL My World", (a 16mm. colour film) produced by Fr. Noel Cruz O.M.I. had its premiere at the Lionel Wendt Theatre, in aid of the National Council for the Deaf and Blind.

The film tells how two teen-agers, Jilska (Jilska Flamer-Caldera) and Camille (Camille Cramer) go on a picnic with their uncle Arthur, "an artist and lover of mankind" (Arthur Van Langenberg) to a fishing village. They meet on the beach with two girls, Soma and Leela, who, they discover, are ill-treated by their father, a fisherman (Geeris Appu) who resents Arthur painting the blind girls.

Comes a bad fishing season and the fisherman is compelled to send his two daughters and little son to beg in Colombo. Social welfare workers, on their track, led by Arthur came to the village after Camille is blinded in a motor accident. Finally, the fishermen are taken to the school for the blind, where they are trained in weaving. Their father tries to snatch them away in a memorable sequence but fails and meets with an accidental death.

Camille now comes with her sister and uncle to the school to meet Soma and Leela, who have finished their course in weaving. Arthur takes the two girls to a school he has started and orders flow in, and the blind girls are happy that they

(Continued on page 21)

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# JOHNNIE WALKER

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**ART, MUSIC & DRAMA**

(Continued from page 20)

have found their rightful place and "there is happiness now in their dark and silent world".

The film was another feather in Father Crusz's cap.

\* \* \*

A Unesco prize of 480 dollars (Rs. 2,273) has been awarded to Mr. D. Kumarasinghe for his book in Sinhalese on electricity as the servant of man. Adjudged the best book in science published in Sinhalese in 1958, it is one of four books written by him and published by a local publisher. The author is a master at St. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia.

\* \* \*

**YOLANDA**, the 21-year-old jazz singer from Ceylon, is shortly to make her London stage debut in a new revue by John Cranko. Cranko is widely regarded as one of the cleverest and most original young men writing for the London theatre and his last revue, "Cranks", received a visit from Princess Margaret.

Yolanda, who is the daughter of concert pianist Irene Felsing, has been having preliminary discussions about the revue with Cranko and other members of the cast. Among the songs is one which Cranko has written specially for her. "It is called 'Little Hour', has Indian musical notation and is preceded by an Indian dance", she told a London correspondent.

"I think the whole show will be very witty and clever. It is all jazz-influenced and we are to wear tights in the manner of Picasso's blue period. The set is based on circus furniture and will be very simple and effective", she said.

Music for the show is by Dave Lee, formerly a musician with the Johnny Dankworth orchestra. The production is by Tony Walton, who is married to Julie Andrews, star of "My Fair Lady".

\* \* \*

**REHEARSALS** for the revue will start on March 21. The previous day Yolanda's first "pop" recording, "Don't Tell Me Not To Love You", will be released by Triumph Records. Another record—this time a long-player—is also on its way. Yolanda flew to Paris recen-

tly specially to record this with eight musicians from the Quincy Jones Band. All the songs on the record have been made famous by jazz singer Billie Holliday and it will probably be called "Little Girl Blue".

Yolanda was originally intended for a career as a concert pianist and began her musical training at the age of three. When she was fourteen she heard her first note of jazz and one year later she had her own weekly programme on Radio Ceylon. It was called "Swingtime", and in it Yolanda sang to the music of a four-piece band composed of musicians of her own age. "We did it because we loved it so much", she said. "We didn't care whether we were paid or not".

When Yolanda was sixteen she went to Australia on holiday—and stayed to sing. It was then that she decided that she wanted to become a professional jazz singer and she toured the country singing at jazz festivals. Since then she has sung in Korea, Iceland and Paris. She first came to Britain three years ago and since that time has acted in plays on television as well as singing.

John Cranko's revue, probably to be called "New Cranks", will open at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on April 18, and at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London, during the following week.

**CEYLON'S SUGAR FACTORY**

**TWENTY** experts from Czechoslovakia with 500 Ceylonese technicians and workers are putting

the finishing touches to Ceylon's first sugar factory in Kantalai. The final tests will be carried out in April and crushing will start thereafter.

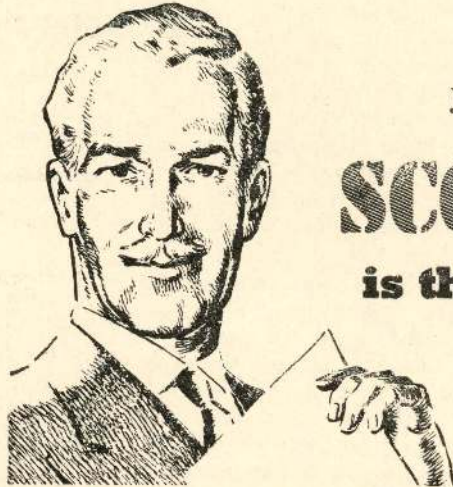
Working at full capacity the factory will crush 1,700 tons of sugarcane daily, producing nearly 200 tons of sugar a day. The initial capacity however is limited to 1,300 tons a day. Most of the machines for the factory were made in Czechoslovakia.

A second sugar factory is being built in the Gal-Oya Valley.

**BANK OF CEYLON**

**THE** twenty-fourth branch of the Bank of Ceylon's island-wide network was opened at Hulftsdorp recently by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr H. V. Perera Q.C., who said that the outskirts of the City had not received the attention they deserved, and its establishment at Hulftsdorp was a recognition of the importance of the legal and business community of the area.

The facilities at the branch are the same as those provided by the Fort office and all banking services are conveniently arranged under one roof. Mr. Perera said the Bank appreciated the interest taken by the Law Society of Ceylon in the proposal made several years ago to establish a branch in the area and referred to the late Mr. S.J.C. Kadirgamar, who, as President of the Law Society, encouraged the bank in its efforts to establish a branch there.



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# BERNARD MILES

—By AUBREY ENSOR—

(Fortnightly Review Special)

MUCH has been written about the Mermaid Theatre and its highly successful opening with a boisterous musical play *Lock Up Your Daughters* based on Henry Fielding's *Rape upon Rape*. The name Bernard Miles inevitably has received considerable publicity, there have been articles, interviews, broadcasts, television, programmes, but they have largely been confined to the theatre—the raising of funds, the design and construction, and to the question of policy, present and future. Not a great deal has been written of the forceful personality whose vision, industry and pertinacity has brought the whole thing into being.

Who is this man who, filming one day in the City, between shots enters the Royal Exchange, notes it would be a good place to house his applied version of an Elizabethan playhouse, sells the idea to the Lord Mayor—conducts a successful season there and subsequently persuades the City Fathers to present him with a plot of ground on which to erect a permanent theatre?

\* \* \*

A SCHOOL master, after coming down from Oxford before he succumbed to the lure of the Theatre, in common with so many stars, Bernard Miles began with the Old Vic. *Richard III* was the play, 1930 the year and the part, Second Messenger. Years of slogging followed—scene designing and scene painting, property-master, assistant stage manager, small part actor—any old thing in Rep. at Birmingham York, Windsor, Sheffield, Brighton, Bournemouth and the People's Theatre, Mile End Road. Nineteen-thirty-eight saw him back with the Vic—again at the New Theatre, and building up a new line of business in the Player's Theatre's *Late Joys*—a modern reproduction of the Old Time Music Hall. Here he did character sketches and sang period songs. His first essay in Revue followed—*The Little Revue* at the lamented Little Theatre, John St. Adelphi—alas, a casualty of the war—and he was to blossom out as a ripe fruity comedian in Herbert Farjeon's wartime *Diversion I and II* at Wyndham's Theatre.

BERNARD MILES' studies of rustic worthies by this time were becoming famous. They are vintage soil and soil has stuck to their garments and their boots. Their wit has the ripeness of the Elizabethan artisan and like the Elizabethan artisan at times they betray a racy, robust bawdiness. Not since the days of that old music hall favourite Albert Chevalier has the British artisan been so perfectly reproduced and Chevalier's rustic did not have such an affinity with the English earth. They have taken their creator on to the Music Hall, on the air and in television on both sides of the Atlantic and have been recorded both on the old seventy-eight and long-playing records.

In 1940 Bernard Miles the actor was back again with the Old Vic—playing leading parts this time. His Iago opposite the German actor—the late Frederick Valk—was much praised. It was an unusual conception of the part played with a West-country burr. Miles successfully surmounted the difficulty in presenting an Iago who appeared to the audience a complete villain, yet convincingly honest to the characters in the play.

\* \* \*

IN *The Taming of the Shrew* he was a rip-roaring Christopher Sly. Compelled to be on the stage for the entire evening, the actor never relaxed for one moment—his reaction to the play was perfect and not for one moment did he intrude unnecessarily into the action or distract from the acting. In Gogol's *The Government Inspector* his fiery-faced Mayor presented with almost repellant grossness was perfectly in keeping with the author's conception. A most successful double was achieved in Bernard Shaw's *St. Joan* in the playing of the uncouth Robert de Baudricourt and the sincerity of the gentle Inquisitor whose long speech was spoken with thoughtfulness and deep feeling.

In the film world, too, Bernard Miles has many triumphs. He was part-author with Charles Saunders

*Tawny Pipit*, of which he was not only co-director, but leading actor, was an astounding success and had a run of three years in New York. Among his recent films are *Moby Dick*, *The Smallest Show on Earth*, and *Tom Thumb*.

\* \* \*

SO far Bernard Miles has not appeared at his own theatre, although his personality pervades every corner in the building, even if he does not happen to be wandering about the foyer in his seaman's sweater and blue trousers, delighted to talk in the interval and before or after the show with any interested patron.

However, in December, as Long John Silver, he will come abroad the Hispaniola as she lies at anchor in Bristol Dock in an entirely new dramatization of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. Without a doubt he will be given a tremendous ovation.

## MATTERS OF MOMENT

(Continued from page 7)

AN announcement in Copenhagen recently stated that Earl Russell—the British philosopher, Bertrand Russell—has been awarded this year's 100,000 Kroner (about £5,000) Sonning Prize for outstanding contributions to European culture. Earl Russell had accepted an invitation to receive the prize in Copenhagen on April 19, the award committee said.

The Sonning Prize, established from a legacy of the Danish writer C. J. Sonning, was first awarded last year to Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

\* \* \*

THE publication in June is announced of a book entitled "Circulatory Ulcers: a Physical Approach" by Dr. H. G. Tranchell, Superintendent of the Paddington General Hospital, and his deputy Dr. C. R. Bannister.

Dr. Tranchell was educated at Wesley College, Colombo, and graduated from Yale.

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# SIGIRIYA

FAMED FOR ITS FRESCOES

—BY SPHINX—

THE fame of the Sigiriya maidens is in truth far-flung and eternal. Poets have sung of them and painters marvel at the technique of the frescoes which have come down fifteen centuries to us with a freshness that is baffling.

Now it is no longer an arduous trip to Sigiriya and the only hazard probably is the chance that you may encounter a swarm of hornets; even that menace is not as frequent as it is used to be.

Excavations carried out by the Archeological Department have restored to our delight the grandeur of the conception of the parricide king who atoned for his sin in his rock fortress which turned a barren rock into a thing of beauty, with palaces and pleasure gardens and galleries. But above all, the fascination of Sigiriya lies in its frescoes.

THERE is still speculation regarding the identity of the maidens. Opinion is divided between the probability of their being goddesses, or queens and their attendants. One needs to reach no conclusion as to their identity for an aesthetic appreciation of the frescoes. Goddesses, or princess or just menial attendants, they are a delight to the beholder. As the poet said, truth is beauty and beauty truth and that is all ye need to know.

And if there was one thing necessary to increase aesthetic appreciation, it is provided in the graffiti which Dr. S. Paranavithana, former Archeological Commissioner, has deciphered and translated into English. Some of the couplets are indeed exquisite, and it is well worth one's trouble to get access to Dr. Paranavithana's work.

THE history of Sigiriya is common knowledge. How Kassapa plotted against his father with his brother-in-law and seized and imprisoned him. There were stories current of vast treasures concealed by his royal father who finally agreed to reveal them. Avaricious Kassapa was incensed when the royal prisoner, taken to Kalawewa, pointed to the waters and said "These are all the treasures I have". Kas-

syapa, enraged, had his father entombed alive, and thereafter knew not a moment's peace till he committed suicide after his rout by his brother Moggalana.

What manner of man he was remains a mystery—a parricide, greedy and avaricious, yet had these marvellous fortress erected with all its beauty.

NOT the least mystery that surrounds Sigiriya is the rock itself. From the surrounding plain this cylindrical rock starts up to a prodigious height, compared to the size of its section at any point, the area of the upper surface being very little more than an acre in extent. Its scarped walls are nearly perpendicular and in some places they overhang their base. The only explanation that has been offered for the formation of this singular cliff is that it was due to an upheaval by a subterranean force, so circumscribed in action that its effects were confined within a very few yards, yet so irresistible as to have shot aloft this prodigious pencil of stone to the height of nearly four hundred feet. That, at any rate, is the theory favoured by Sir Emerson Tennent.

INCIDENTALLY, it is interesting to recall that his attempts to penetrate to the ruined galleries were defeated by the insufferable heat which glowed within the walls and the oppressive smell caused by the bats which inhabited them in thousands. Numbers of snakes were also discerned among the mounds of brickwork over which the party clambered. A bear they disturbed retreated into one of the caves.

Until recently those who ascended this rock in modern times were few, for its galleries in most parts had entirely collapsed. The feat was a most dangerous one until an iron handrail was fixed. Even then, in many parts, a slip would mean instant death. Adventurous spirits who climbed the rock—some half a dozen Englishmen are known to have done so—had to walk along six inch grooves on the bare face of the cliff, a feat possible only to the bare-footed and even then exceedingly dangerous.

PROBABLY the first copies of the frescoes, in crayon, were made in 1889 by Mr. A. Murray in colours like the originals which can be seen in the Colombo Museum. As many have since repeated, he said: "The freshness of the colouring is wonderful; and it is curious

(Continued on page 32)



SIGIRIYA

Photo by W. E. Claessen

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## THE SOUTHERN CROW-PHEASANT

—By S. V. O. SOMANADER—

OF the three species of Crow-Pheasants found in Ceylon, the Southern Crow-Pheasant or concal (*Centropus sinensis parroti*) is the most familiar. This is because, unlike the other two which are found in heavy jungle or high grass, this bird occurs all over the Island, being found even in our gardens. But it is not confined to Ceylon, for its distribution extends up to Peninsular India including the region around Bombay, and even northwards as far as the Ganges and the foot-hills of the Himalayas.

Called in Sinhalese "Ehi-tula" and in Tamil "Senpakam", this bird cannot be mistaken, though it resembles a crow in size and shape, possessing also a black plumage with a black bill, feet and tail, and hopping about the ground in search of food. For, it has chestnut wings lined with black, and crimson eyes. And actually, though it is erroneously called "the Jungle-Crow", it is a kind of cuckoo. But, like the latter, it is not parasitic on the nest of other birds, as it builds its own home and rears its own chicks.

\* \* \*

ALTHOUGH one can watch the crow-pheasant, singly or in pairs, slipping through the bushes or stalking among the thick undergrowth, one can see it feeding on the ground too, making a meal of harmful insects, snails and even small reptiles. True, some people call the bird "the villain of the garden", because it sometimes robs the eggs and young of small birds. But it does more good than harm, for it rids our flower-beds and vegetable gardens of caterpillars, grasshoppers, snails, scorpions, mice, beetles and other pests which are regarded as injurious or harmful.

It will be noticed that, in spite of the fact that the flight of the crow-pheasant is slow and heavy, it can run with considerable speed. And what a noise it makes, especially during breeding time! One can hear, from a long way off, its loud, resounding call of "Kook! Kook! Kook!", which is often promptly replied to (as I have often observed during very early mornings) by its mate some distance away. The bird utters other notes too, for example, a peculiar creaking skirl" when nesting, or "harsh croaks and gurgling chuckles",

Sometimes, when disturbed, it has a scold-note amounting to an "explosive 'k' wiss'".

\* \* \*

THE nest of this bird is a large, untidy, globular structure composed of twigs and leaves, raised about ten to fifteen feet from the ground, and placed in a densely-foliaged tree or a thick bush, if not in a bamboo clump, or in the crown of a palmyrah palm. Though the period of nesting (February to September) varies with local conditions, the majority in Ceylon breed during March-April or August-September.

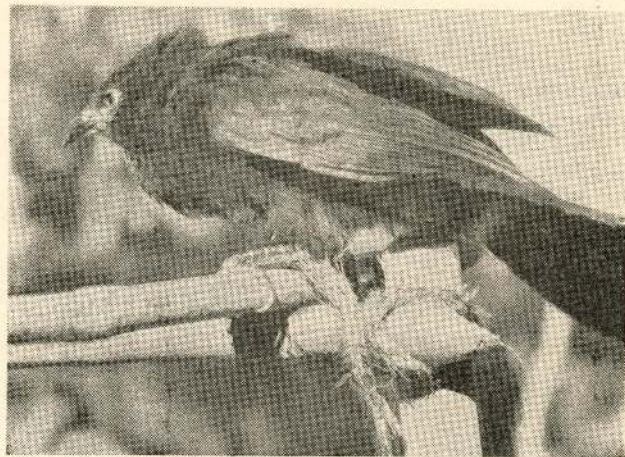


Photo by S. V. O. Somanader

*A Brooding Crow-Pheasant perching on a garden fence-post*

Prior to the breeding, it is interesting to watch the fantastic displays of the cock-bird. Jerking and fanning its loose tail over its back, it struts about in front of its mate to attract her.

Within the nest, with the large entrance well concealed on a side or towards the top, three chalky-white eggs are found. And, when the chicks hatch out, it will be observed that both the parents share in the care of the young, as they did in the building of the nest and in the incubation of the eggs. When the chicks grow up to be young birds, they have an upper back with rufous bars and spots, while the lower plumage is dull-black, marked with grayish-white bars. It is only when they become big enough to look after themselves that they obey the natural instinct, and leave the nest to go about and fend for themselves.

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IT may be mentioned that, in connection with the breeding of the crow-pheasant, there is a popular belief among some Ceylon village folk that the bird can set free any of its young ones if a person happens to fasten the chick to the nest, with a metal chain attached to its leg. It is said that, when the chick is thus helplessly imprisoned, the parent wanders away into the jungle and procures a twig of the "Kalu-nika" plant (the whereabouts of which is known only to this bird) and applies it the chain—which snaps, and secures the captive's release.

It is also said that, to find this precious twig among the mass of twigs and leaves of which the nest is composed, one has only to throw the structure, twig by twig, into a

running stream, and watch the results carefully. It will be found that, while the other twigs will sail downstream with the current, this particular twig will float upstream against it. And, once this wondrous twig is produced, it is regarded as a valuable possession. For, when applied, it will not only break the strongest metal, but will even disintegrate the effect of the flames of fire. Some people even think that when the twig is eaten it has the magical property of rejuvenating the old—enabling, them to live much longer.

All this, of course, seems to be mere superstition based on legend. For investigations and experiments made to test the veracity of these beliefs have not established them as accepted facts related to natural history. Otherwise, everybody will pounce upon the "Kalunika" twig as an inestimable treasure,

# A SPORTS CAUSERIE

—By "ITINERANT"—

## LAWN TENNIS

**R**UPERT Ferdinands has once again been ranked Ceylon's No. 1 in Tennis and Ranjini Jayasuriya claims the women's position for yet another year.

With Bernard Pinto not being rated due to insufficient data, the men's ranking after No. 1 are :— 2. G. N. Perera and D. D. N. Selvadurai, 4. P. S. Kumara and 5. P. N. Pestonjee. Women:—2. Indrani RajaPathirana and Shanti Kodagoda, 4. Sriyanee Wickremasinghe.

Meanwhile the first round tie in the Eastern Zone Davis Cup Tournament is expected to be worked off in Colombo at the end of March or early in April—probably April 2nd, 3rd and 4th. India's Ramanathan Krishnan and Naresh Kumar are expected for this match and efforts are being made to have them stay over for the Nationals in Mid-April.

Woodcock of Australia is amongst the challengers for the National title.

\* \* \*

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

**T**HERE'S more news of this year's Rucker teams. The C.H. and F.C. skippered by Lloyd, will miss Leefe most of the season, though he'll come back from his furlough just before the season ends. Ragner-Laver is back and is expected to turn out again for the C.H. & F.C.

Up-country, Mike Waring, skippering Dimbula, will be minus Bean, McPherson and Ian Goonewardene. But Larry Schokman and place-kicker Bousfield return to the fold.

There certainly appears to be a more even distribution of talent this year than ever before, and that means the Clifford Cup can be anyone's.

## SWIMMING

**I**N the water, the annual two-mile swim and the spearfishing nationals were worked off. In the former, the Marks brothers fought out a thrilling finish, Geoff just edging Boris as both broke the record. Geoff, out of active swimming bar dips in the Mahaweli, felt the distance was shorter than in previous years, which puts the record very much in the air. Boris too out of training swam superbly well and was well ahead of R. Grey, who just edged Tony Williams for third place

Tara de Saram also set a new record for women, beating the only other entry Virginia Swan. If they had swum with the men, their timings would have respectively placed them 5th and 11th.

Of the 82 men who swam, 21 finished under 75 minutes and 21 under 90 minutes. The youngest swimmer, R. Kriegas (13) finished 11th, while S. J. de Abrew, the oldest, finished 41st.

At the spearfishing nationals C. Ranasinghe finished an easy first with a record 185-lb catch. Rodney Jonklaas was second.


\* \* \*

## ROYAL-THOMIAN CRICKET

**M**ID-MARCH and its the season for 'Big Matches' in the schools. High water mark of course was the 81st Royal-Thomian match, which despite an extra hour's play, ended in the now inevitable draw. But it did have its moments.

The wicket on both days was slightly rain affected, especially helping the pace men in the early hours of play, but certainly was not as bad as the tails of both teams made it out to be.


Royal batted first and lost three quick wickets for 26 runs to Fairweather's bowling, then L. Senanayake (47), T. Perayarawar (47) and E. B. Perera (28) took the score on to 133 before Thomian skipper Idroos polished off the innings for 157. Bowling; Fairweather 3 for 20 and not used as much as he should have been, Idroos 5 for 47,



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**A SPORTS CAUSERIE**

St. Thomas's ended the first day at 113 for 5 thanks to an unbeaten 50 by C. E. M. Ponniah, but on the morrow, three quick Sahabandu wickets helped polish off the innings for 131. Sahabandu 4 for 46, Vidanage 3 for 24, N. Senanayake 3 for 13 bowled best and Ponniah's gallant knock ended at 51.

With L. Senanayake, after a couple of early 'lives', knocking up an unbeaten 69, Royal declared at 194 for 5 giving the Thomians 160 minutes to get 221 runs. And the Thomians were having none of it.

The 5th wicket fell at 99 with 45 minutes to go, the sixth at 128 with 10 minutes to go and then the score went to 138 and the game ended. But if R. M. Fernando (45) had been taken off an easy chance early in his gritty innings, what price St. Thomas's ?

\* \* \*

**T**HE other Big Match of the same weekend found St. Benedict's scoring a thrilling 10-minutes to-spare victory over Sister-Colleges.

Batting lustily, the Benedictines knocked up 239 (K. Fernando 5 for 31) then got Sister Colleges out for 167 (K. Fernando 55, E. Rodrigopulle 4 for 47). St. Benedict's were then skittled out for 134 (S. Fernando 4 for 36) but S. Jayewardene's 5 for 25 enabled them to polish off Sister Colleges for 144.

Other matches saw time run out on St. Peter's (against St. Anthony's) and St. Joseph's (against Trinity). The failure of C. Joseph's batting and the fine bowling of Le Mercier were the downfall of St. Anthony's, while Trinity were never in the hunt against St. Joseph's. Wesley



Gate Mudliyar Vincent de Silva  
*This 93-year-old survivor of the historic nine-run match was not well enough to be present at the recent Royal—St. Thomas' encounter, the first he has ever missed. He tells us that he was, however, at the Oval in spirit.*

meanwhile brought off yet another of their thrilling victories when they beat Richmond by 2 runs.

\* \* \*

**T**HE previous week, Royal warmed up for their 'Big Match' with an innings victory over Trinity, while Mahinda met the same fate against Ananda. Nalanda, sparked by the school's most consistent batsman N. Amaradasa, shared the exchanges with St. Benedict's. Amaradasa in Nalanda's second essay was unlucky to miss his century by two runs.

\* \* \*

**A**S the Sara Trophy cricket Tourney draws to a close with the S.S.C. well in the lead, what with Big Matches in the Schools interest has waned. But the matches go on.

The results of the matches over two week-ends are as follows:—

Fine bowling by Crozier and Prins and a century by Edwards enabled the N.C.C. to beat Bloomfield by an innings.

(Continued on page 32)

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## A WOMAN'S DIARY

—BY ANNE—

AS March 19th drew nearer, it was impossible to avoid a quickening of the pulse. So much depended on the outcome of this General Election that even the most preoccupied housewife could not have been unaware of the issues involved. I am amused when I recall the general attitude of disapproval to Mrs. Bandaranaike's participation in the election campaign. It seems to be generally agreed that politics is a dirty game fit only for brutish men, and fair women should not sully their hands by meddling in it. It is indeed a sad state of affairs that we should concede that the "science and art of government" has sunk so low in this country that it is considered the pastime of avaricious and even vicious beings of a low moral fibre rather than the business of prudent, sagacious men of integrity. The dormant masculine sense of chivalry rises to the surface the moment women think of dabbling in politics. There is high moral indignation at the very thought of the gentle sex messing about in this low masculine preoccupation!

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BUT whatever one's views on this matter may be, there is no escaping the fact that, however reluctant we women may be to meddle in politics, politics meddles with us all the time. It interferes with the very stuff of our lives, whether we like it or not, and the wrong kind of politics can play hell with our lives, as we discovered with horror in May 1958. The houses we live in, the food we buy, the schools to which our children go, the language in which we conduct our business, even the smells in the air, depend on politics and politicians. We cannot ignore it.

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MANY women in this country are actively involved in social service. We have a fair sprinkling of practising women doctors. The conscientious doctor and social worker must have a greater awareness than most of the way in which their work is affected by the economic problems besetting this Island. The doctor and the social worker can do only so much, the rest is out of their hands, for the general living

conditions of the people can be remedied only by the State. A doctor may send a village woman home after a serious womb operation, with instructions to rest and to avoid any heavy work. When she goes back to her humble hut, however, who is there to draw water for her, to pound the paddy, to chop the firewood, to bathe the baby and to cook the meals?

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OR take the case of a tuberculosis patient. If she comes for treatment while the disease is in its early stages, its growth is arrested and she is sent home. Today we have social workers attached to the Ceylon National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis doing an excellent job of work, but they cannot guarantee that even half our tuberculosis patients will not go back to one-roomed human kennels in Colombo's slums where they have to do without fresh milk, eggs, butter, fresh fruit and fresh air. Only the Government can wipe out our slums and ensure that all our people have decent homes and a fair chance in life.

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FROM time to time, foreign experts are consulted about our water problem. They assert that diseases like typhoid and enteric fever could be eradicated for ever if we introduce a satisfactory, island-wide pipe-borne water supply. Our hospitals would then have less congestion, for beds would not have to be kept for this large percentage of preventable diseases. How many years will it take for a government to act on the advice of the expert they get down? Take the case of the flies that abound all over Ceylon. We housewives know what a menace they are and how much money we spend on insecticides. Only the local government authorities can take measures to exterminate them at the source and thereby prevent the spread of disease. Take the road to the Dehiwela zoo, down which so many tourists to our lovely Island go. The years old complaints of the residents about the smells that pollute the neighbourhood have so far fallen on deaf ears, although the members of the local urban council (which is situated on this road) must suffer from the smell themselves

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WE need more homes for the aged, more orphanages, more schools for the deaf and blind, more homes for mentally deficient children. So far, the onus for all this has fallen on social service organisations, but the resources of private bodies are limited and only the State can provide adequate care for all. So much depends on the Government. Decisions regarding satisfactory public transport, a clean water supply, electricity, the number of hospitals to be built and the equipment for them, textbooks and school syllabuses, the construction of model houses, or the income a man needs to be able to live decently, are political problems. And they affect us all, men and women alike.

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IT won't do therefore, to vote for someone merely because we like his looks, or because he belongs to the same social class, community or religion as ourselves, or because he was at school with our brothers or our husbands, or is distantly connected by marriage to some kinsman of ours, or because we hope to gain some personal favour if this particular person becomes an M.P. Too much is at stake, and a little thought will convince any woman of the truth of this. We need men of vision and integrity in our councils of State, men who will seek to solve many problems that beset our country today, rather than strive to acquire power and glory and wealth themselves and not care a damn what happens to the people.

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BY the time this article appears in print, we shall have voted for our new Government. The events of the last four years should have left us all sadder and wiser, but one wonders. I cannot help wondering, too, whether, it wouldn't improve matters if Ceylon had a few courageous, able women with a practical approach to the problems of health and sanitation, housing, education food prices, transport and all the things which so affect our daily lives but to which the politicians seem to be so indifferent once they get into Parliament. No one, denies that the men have made an absolute mess of politics. Perhaps what we need is a band of upright educated (in the true sense), wise women reformers!

## A SPORTS CAUSERIE

(Continued from page 29)

Moratuwa scored a most thrilling 11-run outright victory over the Colts, Jayasinghe and W. Fernando's bowling being the deciding factor.

Centuries by Felsing and Lafir helped Saracens to a mass 306 for 5 in reply to Negombo's 192. There was some lusty hitting, but failure to declare cost Saracens a chance at full points.

### THE HAVELOCK GOLF CLUB

TRAVIS Van Langenberg, with hardly a year's golfing experience won the coveted Bartholomeusz Medal, played annually in memory of the late Mr. Percy Bartholomeusz, a well known Sports Journalist in his day and one who played a leading part in the formation of the Havelock Golf Club and the extension of the Havelock Park in the early years of this century to afford sufficient space for a nine-hole course. Van Langenberg annexed the Bartholomeusz Medal with a nett return of 74 under adverse weather conditions. No less than thirty-five took part.

Hans Sigg (10) won yet another important H. G. C. trophy last month when he defeated M. H. M. Yusuf (16) in the final of the Pavilion Cup by 3 up and 2. In an earlier round Sigg had eliminated the former Ceylon Champion Pin Fernando after a very fine display by 4 up and 3.

### HAVELOCK CHALLENGE CUP

THE Foursome competition against bogey for the H.G.C. Havelock Challenge Cup, donated by the Japanese Embassy, has been won by Lal Gooneratne and Chris Abeywardene. The runners-up were "Pin" Fernando and Douglas Fonseka. There was a good entry for this competition, most of the leading H.G.C. players taking part.

### AN OUTSTANDING AFRICAN CRICKETER

SOUTH Africa's most outstanding non-white cricketer has accepted an offer to become a professional next season for Middleton, champions of the Central Lancashire League. Twenty-eight-year-old Basil D'Oliviera of Cape Town—a forcing bat, a useful spin bowler and a brilliant fielder—has scored eighty centuries in the course of a 12-year career during which he has captained representative sides against the M.C.C. "I have seldom seen a more natural cricketer", England and Northants captain, Freddie Brown, said of him. It is expected that D'Oliviera will take an M.C.C. training course when he reaches the United Kingdom in April.

### CEYLON IN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET

MICHAEL Wille, son of the late Mr. Vernon Wille, former Commissioner of Prisons, who left for Australia with his mother soon after he had completed his education at Royal College, has more than fulfilled the promise he gave while playing for the Royalists. In his

last match for Royal against St. Thomas' he scored a superb century. 121 in 1957 and fully maintained the family tradition for cricket talent, Michael's father having distinguished himself as an outstanding left-hand batsman for Royal in his day as his uncle G. A. H. ("Jacko") had done as a very effective left-hand spin bowler.

Here is what Kevin Coghlan, a well known Melbourne cricket commentator has to say of Micheal Wille's latest outstanding batting performance for the Essendon Club—

"Michael Wille, a 21-year-old student from Ceylon, is a real batting find for Essendon. Playing for Essendon Thirds against Prahlan, Michael made 192—the highest individual score for any Essendon XI since Johnny Moyes, nowadays the well-known commentator on Test cricket for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, knocked up 208 for the seniors against Richmond 39 years ago. Wille hit 26 fours and 2 sixes in his total before being caught on the boundary. This was a solid hit—it split the webbing of the hand of the lad who caught him. Wille started in the Fourth just before Christmas and made 128 in his first match. Michael has now been promoted to Essendon's second eleven".

## SIGIRIYA

(Continued from page 25)

that green predominates, a colour rarely, if ever, used by native artists —the present day".

He noted that in some portions of the roof which were more exposed to the elements the plaster had fallen away, affording a fair indication of the method by which it was attached to the rock. "This was first chiselled to a fairly smooth surface, then a layer of finely tempered clay, mixed with rice husk and straw applied half an inch thick, and over this an equal thickness of lime mortar worked to an exceedingly smooth surface, upon which the paintings are executed".

In 1894 Mr. H. C. P. Bell, Archaeological Commissioner, took the risk of a climb to the summit by means of ladders and shallow rock grooves in order to gain a notion of the amount of work that would be necessary to fully complete the exploration.

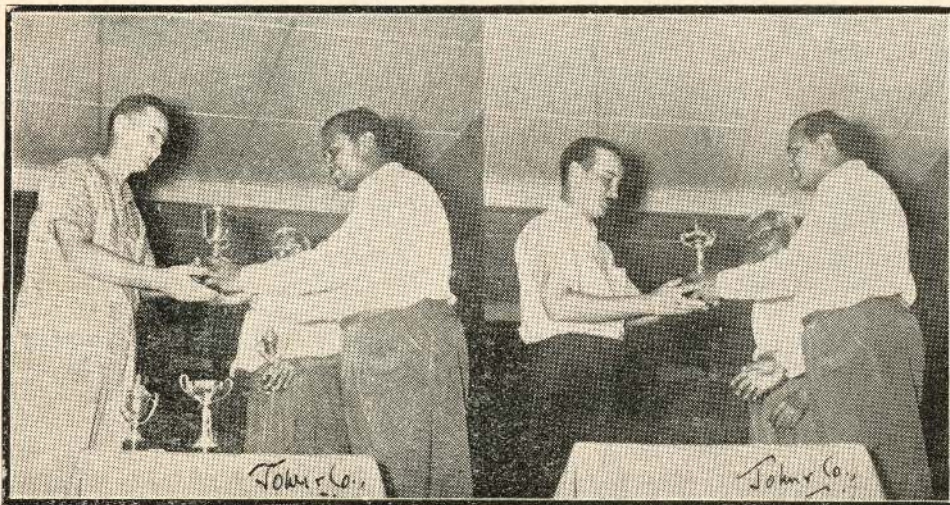


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(RIGHT) Mr. "Pin" Fernando, Captain of the Havelock Golf Club, presenting the Bartholomeusz Medal to Travis Van Langenberg and (LEFT) Mr. "Pin" Fernando presenting the Pavilion Cup to Hans Sigg.

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