

# The Ceylon Post Nightly Review

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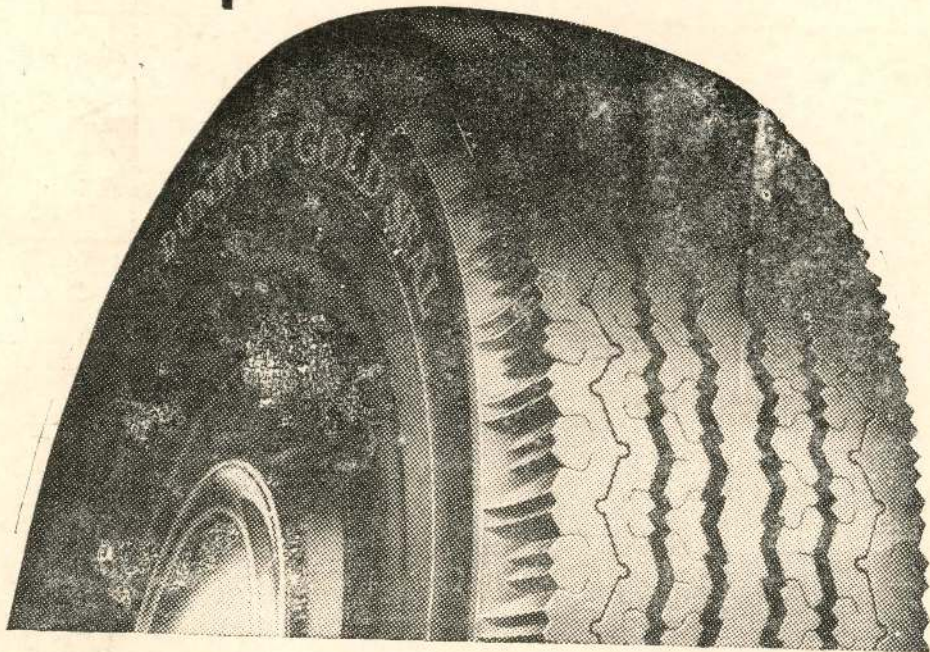
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## The Short Parliament

FOR the situation that has been created in the country of a second general election having to be held four months after the last one, responsibility falls squarely on the leadership of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. If, as it claims, it is a democratic party, it has served democracy ill in not allying itself with the only other democratic party, the UNP, to give the country the government that is required to restore economic and social stability.

\* \* \*

THE Parliament of 33 days, however, has served a useful purpose, besides, it is to be hoped, bringing home to the SLFP the futility of qualified Leftist support to form a government. It is a mercy that the country has been spared SLFP—LSSP rule after its bitter experience of the MEP under the leadership of so powerful a personality as the late Mr. Bandaranaike. The SLFP may have to pay a heavy price for forgetting the lesson.

\* \* \*

THE short Parliament also confirmed the fact that the Left parties are so riven by personal rivalry that for the nation to expect constructive action from them is vain. The leaders are no doubt estimable men of the highest integrity and patriotism, but of what worth are their gifts and attainments if they cannot command greater confidence than they do and when they go their separate ways, although ideologically the differences between them appear negligible.

\* \* \*

THERE will be much sympathy for Mr. Dudley Senanayake at being precluded from remaining in power by constitutional exigency, for he brings to the office of Prime Minister greater maturity of judgment and skill in debate in addition to the sincerity and principled conduct he formerly displayed. Indeed the entire party, after four years in the wilderness, came back mellowed and with awareness of the social revolution that had taken place in the meantime. The dissolution of Parliament might be to its gain.

THE EDITOR.



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# MATTERS OF MOMENT

—By BRUTUS—

CEYLON's fourth Parliament became the shortest in the Island's history when Mr. Dudley Senanayake's government was defeated on April 23rd on the Governor-General's speech in opening Parliament. An amendment to the Address of Thanks sponsored by all the Opposition parties save the MEP was carried by 86 votes to 61, with eight members abstaining. The Address of Thanks as amended was then put and carried by 93 votes to 61, one member declining to vote.

The following morning the Prime Minister called on the Governor-General and advised dissolution of Parliament. Sir Oliver Goonetilleke summoned the leaders of all the parties in the Opposition thereafter and finally Mr. Senanayake, to whom he conveyed his decision to dissolve Parliament. The next general election is fixed for July 20th and the House of Representatives will meet on August 5th. The nomination of candidates will take place on May 20th.

The "common" amendment of the Opposition, apart from amendments proposed by the parties severally, merely said "but regret that your Excellency's government does not command the confidence of this House."

Unique in parliamentary history was a statement issued by the opposition parties except the MEP expressing regret at the Governor-General dissolving Parliament in view of their intimation to him that an alternative government could be formed by the SLFP. The statement added: "The dissolution of Parliament cannot be treated as being in the best interest of the country, which has already suffered by the absence of an effective government for many months."

\* \* \*

THE Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake, made use of a new year message, on April 13th, to appeal for national unity. In his greetings to the people he described the day as one celebrated throughout the country by the vast majority of Sinhalese and Tamils as the national festival. He added: "This is a day of friendship, family re-union and new resolutions when we forgive and forget when we ex-

change sheaves of betel and ask for pardon, and pardon is readily granted and past differences soon forgotten. This is the most appropriate occasion to think of the greater unity.

"When the two major communities, the Sinhalese and the Tamils, together celebrate this great event, might I venture to hope that the past differences will be forgotten, and that we resolve for the new year to tread a path which will soon lead to communal harmony and amity. This is the most appropriate occasion to think of the greater unity, the national unity of our land, to sink our differences, and firmly to resolve courageously to work together for the progress and happiness of the people of our country".

Significantly, the auspicious colour for the new year, according to astrologers, is green, which is the colour of the UNP.

\* \* \*

A TELLING indictment of the late government was presented by the Finance Minister, Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, during the debate on the Speech from the Throne when he compared the financial position of the country when the UNP went to the country in 1956 and when it was returned to power this year. He pointed out that starting with a deficit of Rs. 1.2 million in its budget for 1956, where in

September 1955, the UNP government closed with a net cash operating surplus of Rs. 127.6 million, the Bandaranaike government recorded the following deficits in subsequent years: September, 1957—Rs. 196.4 million; 1958—Rs. 222.5 million, 1959—Rs. 413.4 million and 1960—Rs. 373 million (anticipated). These deficits were financed by domestic loans, advances from the Central Bank, running down cash balances, Treasury Bills, and foreign borrowings.

The figures as at September, 1956, and February, 1960, were domestic loans Rs. 798.7 million and Rs. 1,429.9 million; Central Bank advances nil and Rs. 156.5 million; cash balances Rs. 148.9 million and Rs. 39.8 million (January); Treasury bills Rs. 68 million and Rs. 450 million; foreign borrowings 144 million and Rs. 208.7 million. Between March 1956, and February, 1960, external assets decreased from Rs. 1,177.1 million to Rs. 675 million. The problem now, Mr. Jayewardene said, was to find new sources of finances.

Mr. Jayewardene went on to quote from speeches criticising the late government during the debate on the budget last year and observed "I cannot understand the desire of the LSSP, the CP and the FP to support a government of the SLFP, whose administration of the country during the last four years has been so severely criticised by them."



Times

The Indian Davis Cup pair—Ramanathan Krishnan (right) and Naresh Kumar (left) who made short work of Ceylon in the recent tie.

## MATTERS OF MOMENT

EVERY Commonwealth country and British Colonial territory operating television and sound broadcasting services will receive full B.B.C. coverage of the wedding of Princess Margaret and Mr. Antony Armstrong-Jones on May 6, the B.B.C. announced in London last week. Commonwealth viewers together with those in Nigeria, Hong Kong and the United States will be among the world-wide audience, estimated by the B.B.C. at 300 million, who will watch the wedding scenes in Westminster Abbey within hours of the actual ceremony. All parts of the Commonwealth are expected to hear sound versions of the ceremony simultaneously in world-wide transmissions in English and many other languages from 50 commentators. It will be the biggest sound broadcast since the Coronation in 1953. Plans include live transmissions to 16 European services and extensive same-day programmes in the United States and Canada.

CONTINENTAL viewing will be the most extensive yet arranged by Eurovision. Countries taking the wedding "live" will be Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Belgium has separate French and Flemish services and Switzerland provides programmes in French, German and Italian.

America's biggest television network, the National Broadcasting Company, has made arrangements to show short excerpts of the wedding to American audiences at breakfast time. This will be achieved by using the "slowscan" process and transmitting the film over the trans-Atlantic cable to Montreal. The device was originated by the B.B.C. and first used for the Queen's visit to Canada last year.

BESIDES two former ministers Mr. C. A. S. Marrikar and Mr. Henry Abeyewickrema, allegations against whom are being inquired into by the Parliamentary Bribery Commission, three other ministers, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya Mr. R. E. Jayatillaka, Mr. M. P. de Zoysa, and a parliamentary secretary in the former UNP government, Mr. H. de Z. Siriwardena, have been summoned before the Commission.

The desire to cleanse public life of corruption has also spread to local administration, for the Colombo and Galle municipal councils last week unanimously adopted resolutions requesting the Government to appoint bribery commissions, the Galle council going one better than the City corporation by inviting investigation of allegations of bribery and corrupt practice against employees of the Council as well as members.

SIR John Howard, Q.C., Ceylon's former Chief Justice, writing to us recently says:—"The Election results seem to me most disappointing. What is wanted is



SIR JOHN HOWARD

a stable Government with an adequate majority on which we can rely. This is just what Ceylon has not got, nor does the future hold out much hope. It looks as if the elections are still being contested on personalities rather than policies.

"There seems to be a lack of co-operation for the common good. It is a great pity that the politicians do not derive inspiration from the articles in the Fortnightly Review.

"We have on the whole had a very mild Winter. Now we are looking forward to Spring and Summer. I am afraid it is too much to expect a Summer like that of 1959. I hope to go to the Test match at Lord's on one or two days. That is to say, if it comes off. The situation in

South Africa is really terrible. But at the same time, however much one may disapprove of the South African Government and its policies, I do not think that these matters should invade the course of sport, which at the moment they seem likely to do. In fact, sport is too much under the influence of politics and it seems to be forgotten that cricket, football, golf and tennis are only games and should not be linked with national prestige.

"The West Indian tour of the M.C.C. was a very strange affair and I cannot see that it produced the brighter and more spectacular cricket that everyone wanted to see"

PUBLICATION by the Government of Dr. Nicholas Kaldor's memorandum, on which the Bandaranaike Government based its tax reforms last year, drew forth the comment from Ceylon's expert, Mr. N. U. Jayawardena, that the proposals, generally, were admirable even for an under-developed society seeking to become a socialist democracy. The essence of social democracy from a fiscal angle, he said, is that inherited wealth is placed at a discount and acquired wealth given a premium.

Mr. Jayawardena, however, criticised the scheme as applied by the Government in so far as the personal tax was concerned. He said that marginal level should be reduced to 45 per cent, as envisaged by Dr. Kaldor—(the rate in force is 60 per cent). There is much to be said, in his view, for personal income, corporate income and capital gains being uniformly taxable at the margin at 45 per cent. With uniform marginal rates, he said, an undertaking ploughing back profits into the business would have the tax savings recovered from the shareholders when the holdings are transferred.

Mr. Jayawardena also suggested the following modifications: all investments in new undertakings of whatever type, (not only approved projects) save for some narrow exceptions, e.g. building land, should be exempt from wealth and capital gains taxes for the first five years; aggregation of family income to cease when a person is at 21 years old, if not 18 (the proposed new voting age) instead of at 25 as at present; adjustment of the rates of expendi-



## MATTERS OF MOMENT

ture tax in the lower range in favour of the taxpayer.

He finally proposed the appointment of a committee consisting of a practising accountant, an economist, lawyer, an agriculturist and a member of the general public with joint secretaries, one of whom would be from Inland Revenue, to study the Kaldor recommendations with the law in force and suggest modifications.

\* \* \*

**A** PLANTER who, having retired from active work has decided to make his home in Ceylon is Mr. Franklin H. Lushington, J.P., U.M., of Kirklees, Udapussellawa. Lennoch farm, Gurutalawa, is where he will live hereafter. For recreation he will also conduct a dance band, renewing an interest of his youth.

Son of Captain H. F. Lushington, who owned Ballagalla, Bandara-wela, and grandson of Sir Franklin Lushington, Chief Magistrate of London, Mr. F. H. Lushington started his career on Nayabedde and worked on Passara group, Chapleton, Mahanilu, Portree and Gorthe before going to Kriklees. In the last war he served in the Royal Navy and had a remarkable career, being in action in the South Atlantic, in the defence of London during the blitz, in the invasion of Europe and finally in south-East Asia in the landing at Rangoon and Singapore.

It is as a polo player that he won renown in the field of sport. He was President of the Nuwara Eliya Polo Club and captained the Ceylon Mounted Rifles team for the Nicholson Cup the last time it was played for. In Britain he figured in the Duke of Gloucester's team. His love of horses extended to the turf and he raced with success in Ceylon. He still holds a trainer's licence.

\* \* \*

**C**EYLON will be lit with her own Electric Bulbs around the end of next year if the 11/2 million rupee government sponsored corporation called Ceylon Bulbs and Electricals Ltd. incorporated for this purpose keeps to schedule. Government have agreed to contribute Rs. 3 lakhs in Preference Shares carrying a cumulative interest of 6% per annum. Of the balance Rs. 12 lakhs, two Japanese interests have agreed to contribute Rs. 7 lakhs. Messrs. Tokyo

Shibaura Electric Co. Ltd., one of the Japanese Firms, is the largest manufacturer of electrical goods in Asia. This company, which has been in existence for over 80 years, has technical and financial connections with the International General Electric Company. Their manufactured goods cover a range from large electric generators and electric locomotives to the small pocket transistor radios.

Of the balance Rs. 5 lakhs to be contributed by Ceylon Industrialists, Rs. 4 lakhs has already been invested; 25% of this amount has been invested by Tuckers Ltd. Among the other share-holders are Senator S. Nadesan Q.C., Mr. Cyril Gardiner and Maurice Roche Ltd., who have each contributed Rs. 10,000 and over. Other prominent investors apart from the Directors who have contributed Rs. 5000 and over are, Advocates N. K. Choksy, Q.C., and E. G. Wikremanayake, Q.C., Dr. Sam de Vos and Mercantile Credit Ltd.

The Ceylon Government and the two Japanese interests, who in the aggregate have agreed to invest Rs. 10 lakhs, will have four nominees on the Board of Directors. The other Directors are Messrs. R. A. Wijeyekoon, M. Naseem Saheed, Cyril Gardiner, B. Warusavitarné, M. D. H. Jayawardena, A. H. Macan Markar, E. L. Senanayake, and Sellamuttu Somasunderam.

About 2 million bulbs of a C.I.F Value of Rs. 1,335,000 were imported last year. A fair percentage of this foreign exchange will be saved in the early stages of local manufacture. In the course of time a very much larger percentage will be saved.

\* \* \*

**T**HE deterioration in the standard of English in schools seems at last likely to receive serious attention. A committee appointed by the late Minister of Education, Mr. W. Dahanayake, in October, 1957, has recommended that a start with the teaching of English should be made at the fifth standard and earlier, by stages, as the supply of trained teachers to man English classes improves. At present the teaching of English is supposed to begin at the third standard, but actually is done so early in few schools, and rarely in rural schools. A survey made by the committee disclosed that as many as 1,728 Sinhalese and Tamil schools had no English teacher.

The committee has also recommended that the teaching of English should be compulsory from the fifth to the eighth standard, which marks the end, at 14 plus, of the statutory school-going period. Other recommendations of the committee are that only specially trained teachers should handle the subject and, therefore, the output of the English course should be increased to yield at least 150 to 200 teachers annually, graduates also being trained to teach at the higher levels, and that a language research institute and a special administrative unit should be set up. The functions of the research institute would include research into the special problems of Ceylon students of English and preparation of syllabuses to suit their needs. The administrative unit would be responsible inter alia, for the organization of refresher courses for inspectors of schools and teachers of English.

\* \* \*

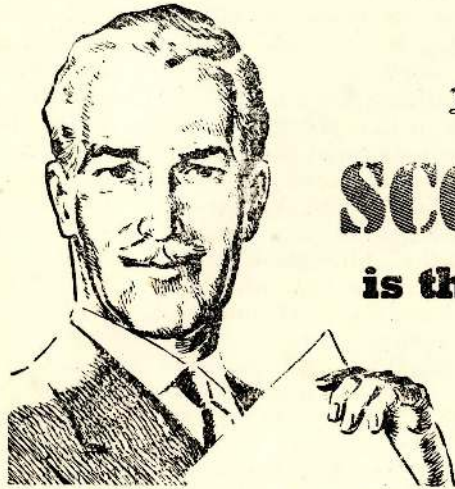
**T**HE Prime Minister's effort to obtain the removal of the shipping freight surcharge through diplomatic channels has met with partial success. It was announced on March 14th that the UK and Continent Ceylon Conference would from that date make a general reduction in rates from the UK and the Continent to Colombo. A communique stated that the Conference lines had been carefully watching the position in the port of Colombo and were now able to advise that "there is evidence of some improvement there". The reduction in rates was declared to be "in an endeavour to assist trade with Ceylon".

It is estimated that the reduction would be of the order of 15 per cent. The surcharges that were in operation amounted to 45 per cent.

\* \* \*

**P**ETITIONS have been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the election of four members of the late Parliament, which is a marked reduction in the number following previous general elections.

The members concerned are Mr. S. K.K. Suriaaratchi (Mahara), Mr. Alfred Thuraiappah (Jaffna), Mr. M. H. Naina Marikar (Puttalam) and Mr. P. B. G. Kalugalla (Kegalla).



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# THE DAYS ARE TOO SHORT

—BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON—

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

I TOOK it as a compliment, the other day, when an old associate, now Principal of a famous technical college in the English Midlands, put the genial question: "And what are you up to now?"

There was the pleasing implication of ceaseless activity, of unwearying pursuit after exciting enterprises. It was flattering, of course, but it did not distinguish me notably from the majority of my fellow-citizens. We are most of us hustling around these days, vitally engaged on projects of more or less interest and importance. That is why I cannot share the anxieties expressed by certain speakers in the House of Lords, at Westminster, London. They have been saying that the shorter week which automation and labour-saving devices are promising us will entail the risk of boredom.

I see no sign of it. Lord Salisbury struck a cheerful note. There was little doubt, he said, that the ordinary man and woman had a greater appreciation of beauty and the arts than ever before. And the Duke of Devonshire stressed that all sorts of field sports which were once the prerogative of the wealthy were now opening out for all.

\* \* \*

## AWARENESS OF WORLD EVENTS

WITH the general rise in standards of living, we all enjoy unprecedented access to entertainment and information through television, theatre and film, besides an instant awareness of world events such as our forefathers never knew.

The days, in fact, are too short. Hence the agitation for extending Summer Time. Some people are urging that the clock should be kept forward an hour throughout the year. It is more than likely that daylight saving will be extended, this year, from October 2 to October 16 for the benefit of holiday-makers and particularly our guests from overseas. Even the farmers, whose timetables are most affected by Summer Time, show signs of relenting for the sake of the common good.

One argument against a longer day is that it may bring still more noise. As I write, a Noise Abatement Bill is being argued in Parliament. Mr. Rupert Speir, the Member who is sponsoring it, has had complaints of 75 different kinds of noise. They range from the sound of jet aircraft and the roar of street traffic, to the clatter of factory machinery, noisy radios and the banging of car doors. The aim of the Bill is to give local authorities power to take action against noise, as they already can against smells and other nuisances.

\* \* \*

## NOISE IS GOOD

UP to a point I like noise. It is the trade-mark of healthy, pulsating existence. But there are times, admittedly, when one yearns for the peace of the ocean depths with perhaps a trip to the sea bed in a bathyscaphe.

Talking of bathyscaphes, the British Sub-Aqua Club is pushing the claims for a plastic design about half the weight of existing types. The originator, Mr. J. B. Stubbs, a former submarine officer, plans to use glass-reinforced plastic instead of steel for the hull. It could operate at depths of 14,000 feet (4,270 metres), deep enough to comb the Pacific

Ocean and pacify the most ardent hater of surface noise.

\* \* \*

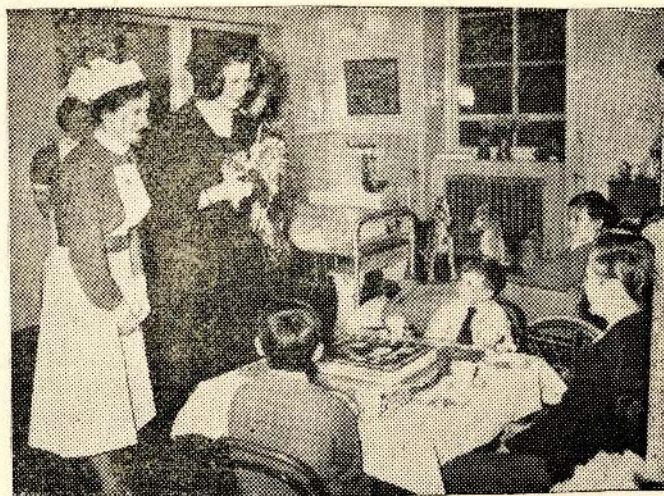
## OUTER SPACE? PERHAPS...

OR why not float in outer space? "Project X" is the enticing description of the Bristol Siddeley company's plan for a new rocket engine which could launch a 13-ton astronomical space observatory carrying a small crew. By the time the rocket had spent its power, it would be 300 miles (480 kilometres) high, travelling at 17,000 miles (27,360 kilometres) an hour in the required direction until the crew shut off the engine and took up their position in orbit round the Earth.

As engines go, "Project X" is still only a project. The most exciting power unit to take actual shape this year is the Rolls-Royce company's multi-fuel engine which the makers claim will eventually run on almost anything from "peanut butter to creosote". A simple switch adapts it for petrol, paraffin, diesel oil or other fuels. At the moment it is intended mainly for military vehicles, but the engine is expected to open up new possibilities of cheap propulsion for civilian vehicles and marine craft.

To go back to satellites, much interest has been aroused by talk of a small 500-pounds (230 kilograms) unmanned satellite which could orbit the Earth as a "flying Post Office". It would be used to "bounce" telegrams, radio-telephone

(Continued on page 27)



H. R. H. Princess Alexandra of Kent interrupts a tea-party in the Margaret Rose ward of the Westminster Hospital in London. The Princess was touring the children's wards of the hospital after presenting awards and certificates to nurses of the hospital who have qualified as State-Registered Nurses.

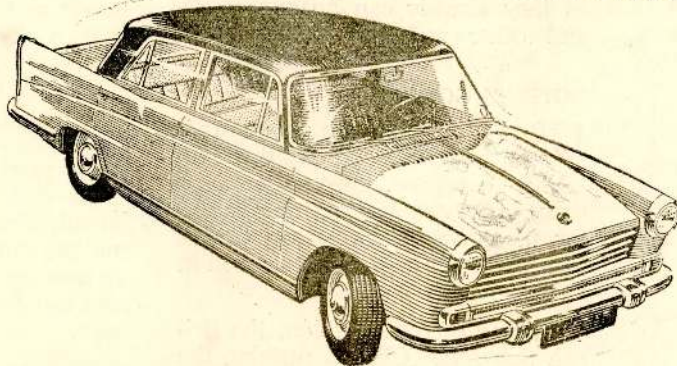
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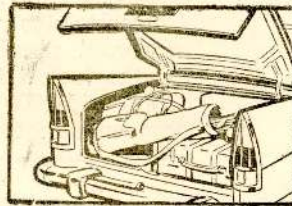


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# PROFILE

## THOMAS WEBB ROBERTS

IN the early years of this century two of the best type of University scholars entered the Ceylon Civil Service, both Oxford men who had received their early education in Barbados in the West Indies, the home of famous International cricketers. One was Thomas Webb Roberts, who arrived in Ceylon in 1902, after graduating at Hertford College, where he had played cricket with a good measure of success without winning his "Blue".

Roberts appeared in the Trials and the Freshmen's match and scored a half century in the latter game. He was only seventeen when he won a scholarship at Harrison College, Barbados, to enter Oxford.

The other was John Christopher Wilberforce Rock, who arrived in the Island two years later, having also attended Harrison College, Barbados, and later Jesus College, Oxford. Rock was also a keen cricketer and played regularly for the Nondescripts Club. Roberts and Rock in their earliest years in the Island were together in the Excise Department, and in the twenties while Roberts was Excise Commissioner, Rock was the Assistant Commissioner. Neither of these two Civil Servants succeeded in securing any of the "plums" of the Service!

\* \* \*

T. W. Roberts has now been forty-eight years in Ceylon, which he decided to make his home since his retirement many years ago. He was ninety years old last Wednesday—27th April—and must have received the felicitations of a wide circle of friends for many more years in the land he loves so well. Galle has been his home for a considerable number of years and he is an institution there. They all like him as he is a great gentleman and sportsman. The writer who has known him since he came to Ceylon will always remember this fine product of the Carribean for his *bon homie* and kindness to all who have from time to time sought his valued advice in the various outstations he served.

\* \* \*

ROBERTS served as a Cadet during his first two years and was appointed later to Matara as Police Magistrate in August, 1905. He

was District Judge, Chilaw in 1909 and District Judge, Batticaloa, in 1912. He came to Colombo as Commissioner of Requests in February, 1914, and in 1917 he was appointed Asst. Commissioner of Excise and Commissioner of Excise three years later. He is now serving as a Member of the Parliamentary Bribery Commission with Mr. Walter Talgodapitiya as Chairman and Mr. S. J. C. Schokman.

\* \* \*

FROM his earliest days in Ceylon T. W. Roberts appeared regularly on the cricket field and played frequently for the Colombo Sports Club which was one of the strongest Club sides in those days.



Ceylon Observer

### MR. THOMAS WEBB ROBERTS

While at Panadura in 1906, Roberts turned out nearly every week-end for the Galle Face Club and soon proved one of their most consistent rungetters. Among his contemporaries were F. J. de Saram, the old Cliftonian, E. B. Alexander, the brothers E. A. and Victor Bartlett, F. Harvey, E. G. B. Lover and the Siedle brothers, A. J. Gordon Field, T. E. Etlinger, who played for Marlborough, R. F. Battams and H. G. Hall, and the Captain in those days was the veteran George Vanderspaar. In 1907, T. W. Roberts was one of Vanderspaar's Ceylon team that met the M.C.C. amateurs led by A. O. Jones and which included J. N. Crawford, K. L. Hutchings, F. L. Fane and R. A. Young. The rest of the side was made up of local Ceylon men.

AMONG the Ceylonese who played for Vanderspaar's team were Tommy Kelaart, D. Joseph, A. S. Eliyatamby and S. E. Christoffels, who are no longer alive. The outstanding feature of Ceylon's first innings was the magnificent innings of 70, out of a total of 157, by T. W. Roberts, whose hard hit innings included a massive sixer which landed on the roof of the Colombo Club chambers. The M.C.C. amateurs replied with 252, J. N. Crawford, who was the most successful bowler for the visitors with a bag of 5 wickets for 57, giving a brilliant display of hitting and being 96 not out at the close.

\* \* \*

WHILE at Kalutara in 1908, T. W. Roberts playing for the Kalutara Bar against the Galle Bar, at Kalutara, compiled an unfinished innings of 241, which for many years stood as the record for the highest individual score in Ceylon cricket.

T. W. Roberts was also a fine Lawn Tennis player and was equally good squash racquets. He was also a keen turfite and even now rarely misses an afternoon's racing in Colombo.

\* \* \*

HIS second son, G. C., who was also at Oxford, appeared for many years for the Sports Club and Panadura where he is a Lecturer at St. John's College. "G. C." was an excellent all-round cricketer, while his elder brother, Tommy, also played for many years for the Sports Club. Tommy (T. F. C.) was an Advocate and practised in Colombo. He served in the judiciary for some time before leaving for England. Mr. T. W. Roberts' daughter, Sheila, was a talented exponent of Lawn Tennis and won the Ladies' Championship of Ceylon more than once.

## COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

Senator Edmund Cooray, Minister of Justice, will attend the Commonwealth Conference in London next month as Ceylon's representative, the Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, being unable to do so in view of the dissolution of Parliament.

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# THE PASSING SCENE

— By SPHINX —

THE ceremonial opening of the fourth Parliament of Ceylon at which the Governor-General read the Throne Speech was held at 2.30 p.m., on April 6. This is the first occasion when this event took place in the afternoon. The theory that has been advanced, in explanation, by a leading politician who has not been identified, is that the hour was selected as on the advice of an astrologer, showing how astrology has come to stay in Ceylon politics. (Incidentally, astrology is taught at one of the new Pirivena Universities in Colombo).

In Ceylon the selection of auspicious hours for starting a new enterprise or on going on a journey, on astrological advice, is more prevalent than is commonly admitted. Almost the first person consulted at a birth is an astrologer who casts the horoscope of the newcomer.

\* \* \*

IN politics, till recently, such consultations were done secretly and somewhat shame-facedly. But probably the first time when the people concerned made no bones about consulting astrologers and picking auspicious hours was when Ministers of the MEP Government, in 1956, under Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, went to Queen's House to take their oaths as Ministers. The swearing-in was followed by the Ministers partaking, at the residence of the Prime Minister, of "kiri-buth", victory rice, as one foreign newspaper correspondent called it. The eating of "kiri-buth" (milk rice) is another of the long-established customs, observed on an auspicious occasion.

In the case of the MEP Government, however, the customary observances were not attended with happy results. The MEP disintegrated in under three years and Mr. Bandaranaike himself was assassinated.

\* \* \*

DURING this period, consulting astrologers, sooth-sayers, mediums, etc. was all the rage and the highest in the land were known to be clients of such persons, one of whom was a young woman in south Ceylon who by all accounts enjoyed a most lucrative "practice".

This simple trust in our stars was shown strikingly even during the recent General Election campaign. One of Ceylon's best known Marxists, a Minister in the Bandaranaike Governemnt for a period, had his horoscope published in his party journal, proving, by diagrams why the stars decreed that he was to be Prime Minister. Needless to say the prophecy went unfulfilled, as prophecies of that kind usually do.

\* \* \*

THE passing of power from the English-educated middle class to the swabasha-educated was demonstrated in the 1956 General Election. With it came a handful of swabasha-educated representatives to Parliament who knew no English. Hence the taunt once hurled at them by a politician who was famed for speaking first and thinking later, if at all, "Tree-climbers", he called them, disparagingly. The number of swabasha-speaking M.Ps has increased in the present Parliament.

In the last Parliament there was the first worker to be elected. He was a postal sorter. A hotel bell-boy who was a candidate suffered defeat at the polls. There are quite a number of politicians drawn from the peasant and working classes in the new Parliament. Farmers, a carpenter, a sign-board painter (shades of Adolf Hitler!), small traders are among the men who have taken their place in the legislature.

Some of the M.Ps. confessed that their trip to Parliament for the formal opening was their first trip to Colombo. One M.P. even confided that he had never come to Colombo because he was so poor; he had been without his bus fare to Colombo to attend the ceremonial opening.

\* \* \*

CONSIDERABLE speculation was caused by a U.S. magazine report of an impending visit by Her Majesty the Queen to Ceylon, India and Pakistan this autumn or next spring. The magazine, "Newsweek" said that Mr. Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, would extend the formal invitation to the Queen when he goes to London next month for the Prime Ministers'

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said there was no truth in the report and both Buckingham Palace and the Ceylon High Commission in London told the press that there was no question of such a visit until a formal invitation from the Governments concerned was received by the Queen. No such invitation had been received yet, it was said.

In Ceylon the Ministry of External Affairs said it had no information on the matter and there was no correspondence on the subject.

The Queen visited Ceylon in 1954, an earlier projected visit having had to be cancelled on account of the death of her father, King George VI. On the occasion Ceylon demonstrated in a memorable manner the loyalty in which she holds the Queen and the Royal Family. There is not the least doubt that should she make another visit, there will be the same evidence of this loyalty, all the talk of a republic within (or without) the Commonwealth notwithstanding.

\* \* \*

IF women who are proctors and advocates are permitted to practice before the courts in sarrees and not in European clothes, "why should we men be denied equal rights with women", asked a male barrister-at-law of the Ministry of Justice the other day. Surely, he added, no sane man will suggest that Ceylonese ladies who are barristers and advocates should appear in black frocks, black stockings and cloaks. Even in London, an Indian woman barrister, Miss Kamala Tybji, is permitted to appear in her saree with the barristers' gown and cloak.

Man who made the plea for equality with women is England-returned barrister, Mr. Tissa Wijeratne, who asks that he be allowed to appear in white national dress with the barrister's gown and, if the Ministry deems it necessary, barrister's wig. To strengthen his case, he points to the fact that the last Speaker of the House of Representatives wore his gown of office and the wig (a QC's wig) over his national costume.

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# A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

—By CROSS-BENCHER—

NO one expected the Government to survive the debate on the Speech from the Throne after its failure to obtain the support of the Federal Party, which remained intransigent. Interest, therefore, centred on what would follow on its defeat, since Mr. Senanayake had announced that he would then advise dissolution of Parliament and the SLFP claimed that it had sufficient support to be called upon to form a government. There was also the suggestion of the MEP leader, Mr. Philip Gunewardena, of a national all-party government.

The idea of a national government was disposed of by Mr. Senanayake in his reply to the debate when he pointed out that several parties would not join it. The SLFP would not, he said, as it described the UNP as capitalist-mercantilist. The LSSP treated the UNP as lepers and the Communist regarded them as worse. The Federal Party would want their minimum demands accepted. He then went on to ask how the Opposition could unite to form a government when they could not agree on any point in the Speech from the Throne even for the purpose of opposition!

\* \* \*

AS for the SLFP, as the party with a majority in the Opposition, forming a government, its hopes were dashed when two of its members defected in the course of the debate, reducing its own strength to 44. One of them was Mr. P. B. A. Weerakoon (Wattegama), who had been campaigning for the SLFP joining forces with the UNP as the only other democratic party. The other was no less a person than the Secretary of the party, Mr. J. C. W. Munasinha, a founder member and close collaborator of the late Mr. Bandaranaike. The help promised it by the LSSP also turned out to be of a nebulous character, for a senior member of the party, Mr. Robert Gunewardena, declared that they would not help the SLFP achieve a stable government. Indeed the debate exposed a state of confusion in the Opposition ranks—the LPP and the MEP were divided in voting on the “common” Opposition amendment.

In the event the Governor-General followed strict constitutional procedure

by summoning all the Opposition leaders after receiving the Prime Minister before deciding to dissolve Parliament. Any other course would obviously have resulted in chaos.

\* \* \*

A PLEASANT surprise the new Government had for the people at the ceremonial opening of Parliament, on April 7th, was the announcement in the Governor-General Sir Oliver Goonetilleke's speech that the price of the rice ration would be reduced to 25 cents a measure each for the two measures. The price obtaining up to the end of that week was 25 cents for the first measure and 45 for the second, a modification introduced by the late government from 35 cents each measure on the grounds that many consumers often bought only one measure.

The Government no doubt had an eye on a possible early general election in making the decision, which was definitely calculated to take the wind out of the sails of the Left parties, specially the LSSP, which had promised that should it come to power it would immediately reduce the price of rice to 25 cents. A saving of 20 cents on the ration does represent a big cut in the poor man's budget and gives him considerable relief.

The opening of Parliament was attended by the usual pomp. A departure from tradition was that it took place in the afternoon, whereas hitherto it has always been in the morning. The change was probably made because a morning ceremony has the effect of considerably disrupting traffic. The Tamil members of Parliament kept away from the ceremony in protest at the fact that the Governor-General's speech was not made in Tamil as well as in Sinhalese and English. A Tamil Translation of the speech also was, however, distributed to members and guests.

\* \* \*

THE Speech contained the salient points in the election manifesto of the UNP. The programme of the Government was not detailed but stated in general terms, evidently in view of its uncertain future.

The speech opened with a statement

of foreign policy, which was declared to be strict neutrality and non-alignment with power-blocs and friendship with all countries. An announcement that was well received was that legislation would be introduced compelling ministers and senators, members of Parliament, of local authorities and state corporations, and officers of the public service and of local authorities to declare their assets and liabilities in Ceylon and abroad at prescribed intervals.

It was further added that all steps would be taken for the eradication of corruption in public life.

Deploring the estrangement that prevails between the two major communities, it was indicated in the Speech that early discussions would be held with a view to improving communal harmony. There was no hint of denationalisation, as was expected in some quarters. On the other hand, it was stated that steps would be taken to ensure that the nationalised services were run more efficiently. A significant comment made in promising steps to increase productivity was: “The problem of production is not one of public versus private enterprise but of how both public and private enterprise can fruitfully co-operate with each other in the national interest”.

Announcement of the reduction of the price of rice was preceded by the statement that every endeavour would be made to bring down the cost of living. The Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake's hand is discernible in the following passage: “The development of sport will be encouraged. Playing fields will be established in villages and schools”. The previous day he had publicly confessed that his happiest hours had been spent on the sports fields.

\* \* \*

AN interesting suggestion made by the leader of the MEP, Mr. Philip Gunewardena, before the opening of Parliament was that a national government be set up for a specified period, say a year, in order to organise and direct an efficient administration, to arrest the decline of the country's economy and to conserve the national wealth until a healthy and stable government was elected.

Mr. Gunewardena's suggestion was contained in a review of recent

(Continued on page 32)

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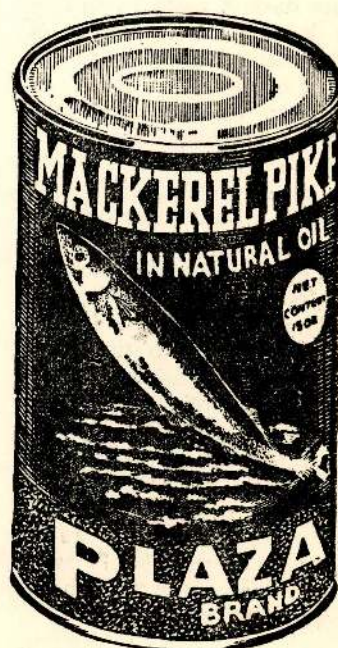
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## A LETTER FROM MR. W. T. GRESWELL

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

Taunton, April 16

**M**OST followers of the game would agree that as time goes on Test cricket is the last stronghold in popular favour, unless we find it at the lowest rung of the ladder, the village green of a Saturday afternoon. County cricket no longer attracts, as evidenced by falling gate receipts and the financial help provided by Supporters' Clubs, without which nearly all the counties would be in such dire straits that many would be forced out of business. For business it most certainly is.

Between first class cricket and that of the village green Club cricket has its place, and also its troubles. In years gone by many of the best Clubs had as many two-day as one-day games. Now there is far less leisure time and it is not easy to raise a team for a two-day engagement.

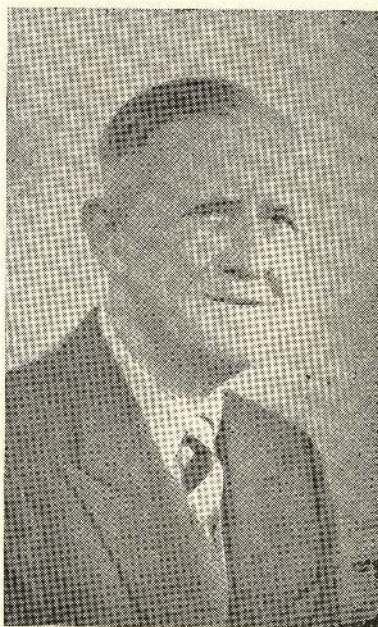
\* \* \*

**I**F interest is to be kept alive how important it is therefore that Test cricket should be the medium for this purpose in its appeal to popular imagination. Only a super-optimist could find a grain of hope in the M.C.C. tour of the West Indies, now mercifully at an end. The Tests were dull and uninspiring and if there is any glamour or glory left in the great game, the West Indian exhibition has gone far to tarnish, if not to destroy it.

If either side deserved to win, then it was England. The West Indians, through the degrading performance of their fast bowlers and the inability or refusal of their batsmen to go for runs when occasion demanded, certainly deserved to lose the series. So England for the first time in history return victorious from the West Indies with four games drawn. Will this tour live in memory? I doubt it unless it be for the malicious bumpers of Hall and Watson or the new fashion in the rate of scoring which, at a run a minute, seems now to be regarded as reckless and irresponsible. Touching the matter of deliberate bumper bowling a statement caught my eye in the Times correspondent's account of the final Test. He mentions that Barington had to retire hurt four times

in eight Test innings. Also that Dexter received twelve short fast bumpers in a row. He then concludes that unless the whole matter is carefully considered Test cricket will be controlled by bowlers of brute force and captains of ruthless will!

Too true, but what a miserable come down from cricket as it has been played and can be played again if the Authorities really set out to eradicate this evil. It comes to this: a fast bowler may surely bowl one bumper an over. It is part of his armoury and it would be disconcerting enough to a batsman. Umpires, if properly supported,



Mr. W. T. Greswell

could see to it if a rule to this end was framed.

\* \* \*

**I**T is sad news that another operation will keep Peter May out of cricket for the first part of the coming season. From what I know of Cowdrey, he will be well able to cope with the captaincy if asked to do so. He is probably more solid and imperturbable than May. It is only to be hoped that his prowess as an opening batsman will not be impaired by the added responsibility of leadership.

The English season is about to start, but finding it difficult owing

to very heavy rains in the first week of April, when it is usually possible to start practice in the open on grass wickets. However, the in-door schools are in full blast and, though a poor substitute for grass, are useful in helping players to limber up.

\* \* \*

**T**HE South African cricketers will be with us soon. The inevitable prelude to the arrival of our visitors is mention of the apartheid crisis in their homeland and its possible bearing upon their reception here. A section of the British public is definitely inflamed by the events in South Africa and the way they are described by the more irresponsible Press. But many more people appreciate that, however regrettable the situation now is, it is more than presumptive to condemn the South African Government at a distance without closer appreciation of the problem in which they are enmeshed, possibly as a result of their own mistaken policy. It is now their own domestic affair and they must settle it as best they can and as soon as possible.

\* \* \*

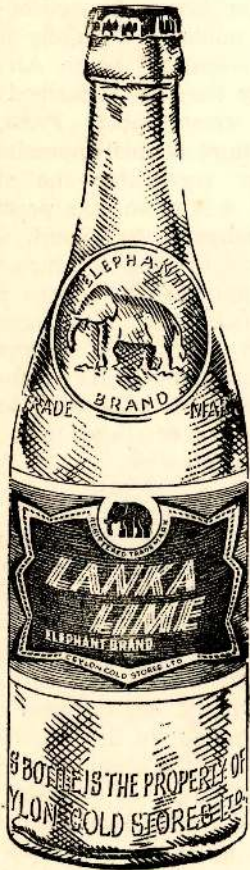
**B**Y a strange coincidence, as I was writing these lines, the B.B.C. announced in their news bulletin that the Rev. David Sheppard, who played for England and captained Sussex before he took Holy Orders, has declined an invitation to captain the Duke of Norfolk's XI in the usual match with the Visiting Team at Arundel Castle. It is of course presumed that his refusal arises from disapproval of the South African apartheid policy.

Furthermore it is stated that Sheppard will not assist Sussex when the county plays the Visitors. By some this may be construed as a somewhat sensational development in advance of the arrival of the South Africans and not a happy prelude to the tour. I know David Sheppard. He is a man of high principles and conscientious to a degree. He obviously feels that if he played against the South Africans as a Minister of the Church he would be unable to reconcile his conscience with an action which might appear to condone apartheid and its tragic results.

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## "PEAFOWL IS PEAFOWL"

—By DOUGLAS RAFFEL—

(Fortnightly Review Special)

I do not belong to that category of older sportsmen, who having shot and eaten numbers of every game animal and bird to be found in this country, (while young or fairly young,) now approaching three score and ten declaims loudly against the "savage crime" of shooting, even for the pot, and even if the aforesaid pot is to be occupied by such a supremely succulent bird as a peafowl. To them and to other spoil sports, I recommend the book of Genesis (much maligned), chapter one, verses 26, 27 and 28, written and meant for all generations. I do not see the point of worrying about posterity if we of this generation are to deny ourselves the undoubted pleasure of getting our teeth into a peafowl, roast or PKB. Of course I advocate using what you shoot, not wasting it. And only an idiot will waste a peafowl, who classes it with pond heron which is what he usually shoots. I also advocate shooting your peafowl legitimately on a licence during the open season.

As a sportsman I would not like to be classed with the village "goiya", who decent chap though he may be, does not possess such a thing, as an old school tie. So for the love of Mike, let's do things decently. A fowl licence is cheap enough at Rs. 2/50. It will tell you how many peafowl you can shoot, and also the numbers of spurfowl and partridge shootable on it. It will probably say "three peafowl, six spurfowl and twenty partridge." To those who are not initiated into the mysterious mental processes of those who sit in Kachcheries, I must at once say that this is NOT meant as a joke. They are deadly serious. With a spot of luck you will probably be able to bag your three peafowl. You are not "bloody likely" in the famous words of Eliza Doolittle to see six spurfowl in sixty years. I am sixty and in forty years of shooting I have seen two and shot one, the first one, and I did not know it was a spur fowl when I shot it. One of the party, a Provincial Engineer now long dead, told me what the bird was, and I noted the TWO spurrs per leg.

As for partridge, when you have shot nineteen and two flush just then, you shoot the 20th and shake hands with the 21st. And call it a day. But this is about peafowl. Armed with your licence, you will feel very sure you will get your quota of birds. But I said "With a spot of luck". You will see three or more, and if your luck is in, get one, so don't forget to doff your hat to the deviyo who rules that area for being good to you.

WHETHER some friend asks you for some peafowl fat for his wife or not, you will either do the feathering yourself or see it done under your personal supervision, as trackers and or servants are proverbially careless and /or dishonest. You will make a note of that. Having feathered the bird to your satisfaction you will cut off what is generally called the "parson's nose" (I never met a parson with a nose that shape), and by exposing this fatty morsel to the direct rays of the sun, when you are safe back home, you will fill a small bottle with an amazing amount of oil, for your friend's wife or your own wife. Every drop of that oil is worth a fortune as it is the genuine McCoy, and not the adulterated filth you buy at Rs. 15/- the thimbleful. The rest of the fat must be left on the bird if it is going to cook perfectly and be soft and succulent and tasty. I know a man who with a great deal of difficulty shot a fat peahen, and told his wife to have it carefully roasted. The good wife to whom cooking was just a word like "book binding", let the ayah extract all the fat, and when the roast peafowl come to table it was as tough as an Arpico Rubber sole. The man exploded, and his B.P. rose to over 390. He had to be given Serpasil three times a day and a tranquilizer at nine p.m.

Yes, that fat *must* stay on the bird, otherwise it will be hard as macadam. Game birds are all tough and must be specially cooked, remember that fact. If many folk do not like game flesh it is because their knowledge of how to cook it is deficient. So let them roast your peafowl or make a polkin bedung or a

dry bedung out of it and if it has been well cooked you are going to sit down to a feast fit for a king. Remember scores of people who know what good food is, prefer peafowl to any turkey. So do I. But we are already eating our peafowl before we have shot it.

HOW then is one to shoot a peafowl? Of course if you are camping out in certain parts of Ceylon, on a regular jungle safari, you come across peacocks and hens on your regular morning and evening rounds with tracker, and can collect a few that way, with shot gun or .22 rifle. This way is the easiest way of meeting with them, but your shot nine times out of ten will have to be a snap shot. And don't imagine that stalking a peafowl is as easy as getting an introduction to the modern girl.

At the end of ten minutes, during which you would have tied yourself up in knots, slipped sundry discs, squeezed yourself through thorn bushes, crept under fallen trees, etc, will be surprised to find that your quarry had laughed outright and legged it for his home in the next province. Peafowl cannot scent us. This is due to a kind dispensation of an all-loving Creator, as I am sure none of us give off the perfume of a tea rose after hours spent in our dry zone jungles, sweat sodden and dirt encrusted. *But they can see us.* And this they do with X-ray eyes that even Mr. Kuda Bux would envy. Years ago a friend of mine, now a Canon of the Church, and I were staying for a spell at the Kuchaveli circuit bungalow. In the dark every morning we used to set off to Tiriya to try and bag even one of the numbers of peacocks and hens we knew lived there and sat at dawn on the tops of tall trees, and which we looked at with binoculars from over 1000 yards away. We used to park the car by the road and set off to stalk them. The stalk lay under immense trees and through scrub jungle which hid us completely, till we came to a spot only a hundred yards away from where we could pot them with a .22 rifle, or so we thought.

IN spite of all our most careful precautions those peafowl somehow spotted us, and when we reached our objective they had gone.

(Continued on page 32)

## PEOPLE

MR. Peter Rust, so well known in Ceylon as the former Fort Merchant who spent nearly fifty years in this Island, and who is now living in retirement in South Africa, writing to us from Port Elizabeth Club on the 5th April, says that he had been spending a few months with his daughter, Mrs. P. M. Duggan, and son-in-law, at Cape Town and was on his way back to East London, where he permanently resides with his son and daughter-in-law. While at Cape Town, Peter Rust met several old Ceylon friends, including Mr. and Mrs. R. M. West (National Mutual Life Association of Australasia, Ltd), Mr. & Mrs. H. G. Donald, (Gow, Somerville & Co., Ltd), Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Rice, (Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd.) and Mr. & Mrs. Treleaven (formerly of the Bank of Madras). He was delighted to meet them.

MR. T. A. Llewellyn, an Oxford graduate, who has just completed a stay of three years at Jogjakarta University, Indonesia, as Lecturer in History, is to be in charge of the British Council's new Centre to be opened in Kandy next month. It will consist of a Library and Reading Room, in this way extending the already wide services of the Council's Library in Colombo. There will be facilities for discussion groups and meetings of youth associations as well as for the showing of documentary films. From time to time exhibitions prepared in London will be put on display. It is also hoped that the Centre may be able to encourage development in

the amateur drama movement. Play reading sets will be available.

A feature of the Centre will be the wide variety of recent high quality recordings that will form part of its permanent equipment. Speech recordings and study boxes will also be available and a regular programme of cultural activities will be arranged.

THE legal and the medical profession each lost an outstanding member by the death, early in the month, of Mr. G. M. de Silva, Principal of the Law College, and Dr. T. H. Gunewardene.

Mr. de Silva joined the Bar after working for some years as a teacher. Having practised for a short time he accepted an appointment in the judiciary, rising to be District Judge of Colombo and Commissioner of Assize.

In warm tributes paid to him at Huftsdorp, it was said that though he had qualities ideally suited to a judicial career and was highly respected as a judge he was happier as Principal of the Law College, a post to which he was appointed on his retirement from the Bench. Mr de Silva was a Buddhist scholar and was regarded as an exemplary Buddhist.

Dr. Gunewardene was a pioneer paediatrician. He worked in children's hospitals in England during the first world war, which it is said gave him a sense of mission. In an appreciation of his life, it was written: "When the body of Dr. Gunewardene was laid to rest there were scores of people, their ages ranging from 20 to 40, whom he had known from infancy, winning

their lasting friendship, which is a more precious thing than gratitude."

SMETANA's "Bartered Bride" was recently produced in far Nigeria, at Ibadan, one of those who had a very big hand in its production being Mrs. Irene Vanderwall (wife of Dr. Harold Vanderwall), and once so well known in musical circles in Colombo. It was played to full houses every night, H. E. the Governor and his party being present on the opening night. After the performance Mrs. Vanderwall was led on to the stage by Peter Ronston, one of the principal actors taking part, to receive a bouquet which was presented to her by the rest of the cast.

Dr. Harold Vanderwall has been on the University Staff in Nigeria for the last three years. Dr. & Mrs. Vanderwall's son, Anthony, is being educated in England at King's School, Rochester.

IN the paragraph regarding Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala appearing in our issue of 11th March, 1960, there was a slight error. Mr. Deraniyagala actually attended the Pan-African Prehistoric Congress and not the Pan-African Congress as reported.

IT is announced that Major W. A. Jeewasoma, military liaison officer at the Ceylon High Commission in London, has been appointed an extra gentleman usher to the Queen in place of Major Chris Fernando, who has resigned.

MR. Lalith Athulathmudali, former President of the Oxford Union, is to be a member of the Afro-Asian Brains Trust panel for the British Foreign Office seminar at Wilton Park, Sussex, on April 30th, on "Europe and developments in Asia and Africa."

About twenty Officials of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation will attend the seminar and the members of the Brains Trust will answer questions put by the officials.

MR. Bryan Robertson, Director of the Whitechapel Art Gallery London, is to lecture on "Modern British Paintings And Sculpture" at the British Council Centre, 154 Galle Road, Colombo 3, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3. The White-

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chapel Gallery is a large public exhibition centre, without a permanent collection, in the East End of London, and has been responsible for some of the most important exhibitions of recent years, notably the retrospectives devoted to Turner, Stubbs, Hepworth, Nicholas De Steal, Mondrian, Malevich and Jackson Pollock.

Mr. Robertson is regular broadcaster on the B.B.C.'s "The Critics" programme and has appeared on television. He has just completed his first book, a monograph on Jackson Pollock. Mr. Robertson will arrive in Colombo from Bangkok on the afternoon of May 2.

THE death occurred in Kandy recently of Mr. J. R. Grenier, aged 89. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Grenier, Puisne Judge. Mr. Grenier qualified as an Engineer in Britain and worked in Kandy and Negombo. During the war he had a hand in the construction of the Koggala and Katunayake aerodromes. He leaves his wife Elsie (nee Nell), a son, Joseph Paul Melville, and two sisters, Louise and Mary.

LEADING London newspapers were unanimous in their praise of Mr. Rohan de Saram, Ceylonese cellist, after his second concert at Wigmore Hall, on April 7. The music critic of "The Times" wrote: "In this richly gifted Sinhalese cellist, there has been a remarkable continuous development from childhood onwards and, now at the age of 20, he seems to combine the perception of a fully matured artist with the natural exuberance of his youth. Mr. de Saram has not faded out like other youthful prodigies.

"In assessing Mr. de Saram as a cellist pure and simple, it is perhaps the beauty and fullness of his tone that strikes the ear first."

"The Times" and "The Daily Telegraph" both commented that Mr. de Saram and his accompanist, Prof. Ivor Keys, have formed a partnership that would be hard to equal with their apparently spontaneous and unerring musical understanding. Saying that even at 20 Mr. de Saram is already a veteran performer, the "Daily Telegraph" added: "His progress has been really phenomenal and he is now really a great performer".

The music critic of the "Daily Mail", Percy Cater said: "Mr. de Saram is destined to be one of the world's master cellists". He added that his Wigmore Hall playing would have done honour to a seasoned virtuose.

"Mr. de Saram is a born cellist. Between him and the instrument there is as if it were an affectionate bond", he said.

MR. T. Rudra, who as Mayor of Colombo presided at the civic reception to the Queen on Her Majesty's visit to Ceylon in 1954, died after a brief illness on April 15th. At the last municipal elections he was returned to the Council from Wellawatte South, which he had represented from 1946. A successful businessman, Mr. Rudra was also a keen sportsman, his particular interest being physical cul-

ture, in which field he earned a high reputation. He performed remarkable feats of strength at the height of his prowess. He was for some time chairman of the physical culture department of the YMCA and had been President of the Amateur Weight Lifting Association since 1949.

On the day of the funeral the body lay in state in the Town Hall for six hours and people of all classes and communities walked past the bier in tribute to a sincere city father.

THE engagement is announced of Susan Jennifer Ann, only daughter of Mr. H. P. L. Ross and Mrs. Ross, formerly of Ceylon, to Mr. Hark Hugh Learoyd Piercy of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

(Continued on page 27)

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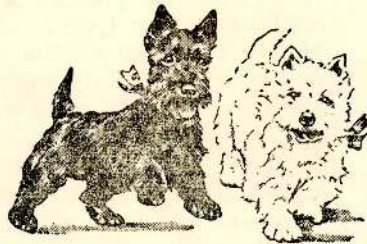
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# POLONNARUWA

## QUEEN OF THE RUINED CITIES

(Fortnightly Review Special)

POLONNARUWA is surely the queen of the ruined cities of Ceylon and is a constant reminder of the final chapter of glory of the Sinhalese, for after the Polonnaruwa epoch started the decline and fall of the race. Perhaps its glorious hour was the day of the second coronation of Parakrama the Great, whose name is inextricably woven into the history of Polonnaruwa as it is with that of the Sinhalese.

“On that day the deafening sound of diverse drums was terrible, even as the rolling of the ocean when it is shaken to and fro by the tempest at the end of the world. And the elephants, decked with covering of gold, made the street before the palace to look as if clouds had descended thereon with flashes of lightening; and with the prancing of the steeds of war the whole city on that day seemed to wave even like the sea. And the sky was wholly shut out of sight with rows of umbrellas of diverse colours and with lines of flags of gold. And there was the waving of garments and the clapping of hands. And the inhabitants of the city shouted, saying ‘Live! O live, great king!’

\* \* \*

AND there was feasting over the whole land which was filled with arches of plantains intermingled with rows of flower-pots; and hundreds of minstrels chanted songs of praise, and the air was filled with the smoke of sweet incense. Many persons also arrayed themselves in cloths of divers colours and decked themselves with ornaments of diverse kinds; and the great soldiers who were practised in war, mighty men, armed with divers kinds of weapons, and with the mien of graceful heroes, moved about hither and thither like unto elephants that had broken asunder their bonds.

“By reason of the many archers also who walked about with their bows in their hands, it seemed as if an army of gods had visited the land; and the city with its multitude of palaces gorgeously decorated with gold and gems and pearls, seemed like unto the firmament that is studded with stars.

AND the mighty king, with eyes that were long like the lily, caused many wonderful and marvellous things to be displayed, and adorned himself with diverse ornaments, and ascended a golden state supported on the backs of two elephants that were covered with cloth of gold. And he bore on his head a crown that shone with the rays of gems, like as the eastern mountain beareth the glorious and rising sun. And casting into the shade the beauty of spring by the strength of his own beauty, he drew tears of joy afrom the eyes of the beautiful women of the city. And he marched round the city, beaming with the signs of happiness and, like unto the god with the thousand eyes, entered the beauteous palace of the king”. Thus wrote a chronicler of the dazzling day centuries ago.

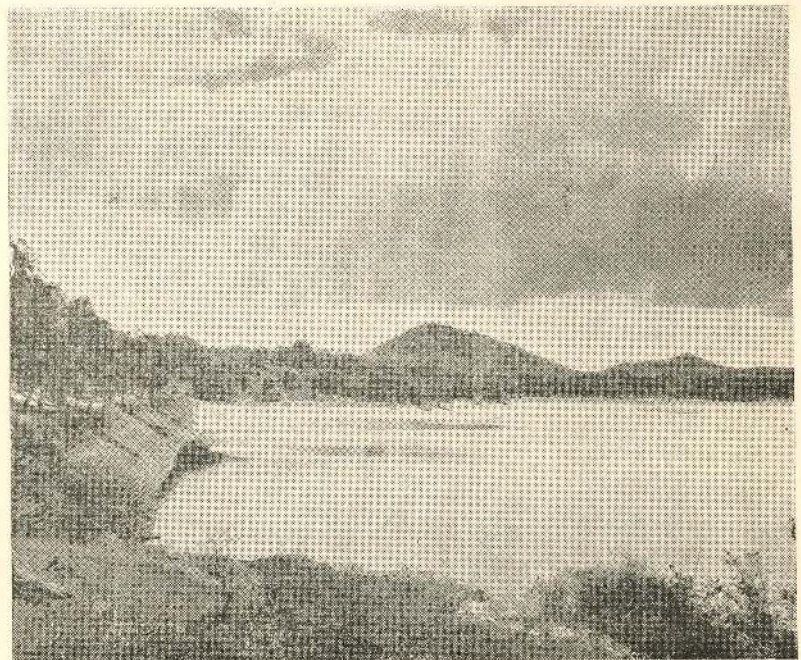
His enthusiasm for the good king is understandable. For Parakrama after years of preparation had subdued warring factions and established peace and gave the land prosperity on a scale it had rarely known before or since. Under him Polonnaruwa reached its zenith of greatness and its ruins still strike us

with wonder. The love his subjects had for this king was well deserved for in his first speech to his ministers he said: Remember that it is not meet that men like unto us should live and enjoy what has come into our hands and care not for the people.

\* \* \*

PARAKRAMA it was who enlarged and adorned the city. For himself he built a palace of great splendour. It has seven storeys and its thousand rooms were no less remarkable for the massive and beautiful pillars that supported the floors than its roof, which was surmounted by hundreds of pinnacles wrought in precious metals. The furnishing was equally sumptuous from carpets of great value to the tables inlaid with ivory and gold.

In his reign of 33 years Parakrama built numerous religious buildings, most of them of colossal proportions. Nor were places of entertainment omitted. He built theatres glittering with golden pillars and delighted the assemblage with paintings representing scenes of their hero's exploits; halls of recreation in which is teemed “as if the hall of assembly of the gods had descended to the earth, and the manners and customs of the whole world had been gathered together into one place”.



Parakrama Samudara Tank, Polonnaruwa

W. E. Claessen

## POLONNARUWA

(Continued from page 23)

THE Temple of the Tooth that he built is said to have shone with roofs, doors and windows of gold and countless works of art, both within and without, and to have been ornamented with canopies of divers colours. "It was like into the palace of the goddess of beauty, and shone with a lustre so great that all that was delightful on earth med to have been gathered together and brought into one place"

He built many pleasant parks and gardens in the city in which the ornamental baths so frequently met with among the ruins were a feature. One of the gardens was famous for "a bathing hall that dazzled the eyes of the beholder, and from which issued sprays of water conducted

through pipes by means of machines, making the place to look as if the clouds poured down rain without ceasing".

\* \* \*

THE most imposing pile which remains is the Jetawanarama temple. Then there is the Thuparama, an oblong brick building with a square tower. The Satmahalprasad or palace of seven storeys is a building the origin of which is veiled in mystery. Statues ornament each storey and there are traces of a staircase within. One of the most interesting ruins at Polonnaruwa is the Gal Vihara, a rock temple with three colossal figures and a shrine carved out of one huge boulder. The recumbent Buddha, 46 feet long, is specially impressive. The head rests upon the right hand supported on a bolster into which it sinks naturally, suggesting perfect repose. The erect statue is sup-

posed to represent Ananda, the Buddha's favourite pupil.

On the Parakrama Samudra lofty embankment a mile away is a striking statue, popularly supposed to be Parakrama's, carved in the solid rock. The monarch who raised most of the temples and monuments of the city, stands with his back to his great works, holding an ola, or palm leaf books, in his hands "as it at the end of his glorious reign he had found in the study of the Buddhist scriptures his final consolation".

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING  
PILGRIMS OF JAPAN

THE followers of Japan's religious sects build many of their temples on the summits of almost inaccessible mountains. And at least once in their lives truly devout monks are expected to make a pilgrimage to the temple. In the arduous climb by foot up the steep mountainside Buddhists see a strengthening in faith, and self-discipline.

Even today when ski-ing is a popular sport with the young people of Japan, there are sacred mountains climbed only by believers and monks. Mount Minoby, in Yamashiro Prefecture, is one of the mountains, and has several temples. Kuonji temple, the largest, stands at the top of the mountain. It is the headquarters temple of the Nichiren Sect.

\* \* \*

ALL the year round, Nichiren followers make their pilgrimages to the mountain top. They climb in groups, clad in white kimonos on which is written a part of Sutra reading—"Nam myo hōnen gay kyo," "Glory to the Sutra of the Lotus of the Supreme Law." They chant this phrase in unison as they climb up the mountain.

\* \* \*

MINOBU is located to the west of Mount Fuji, and one of the rewards for the stiff climb is the sight of Fuji in the morning, with its incomparable peak reaching into the blue sky and its foot encircled by heavy cloud.

Since ancient times Fuji has been regarded as the most sacred mountain of Japan. For ever, white, it symbolizes the yearning of the Japanese people for peace and purity.

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# JOHNNIE WALKER

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## THRESHOLD OF SUMMER

—BY ERNEST C. THOMSON—  
(Fortnightly Review Special)

MAY has been England's Merry Month all down the ages. True, the poet Browning sang: "Oh to be in England, Now that April's there!"—but, being abroad at the time, he may have forgotten the vagaries of that fickle month half way between Spring and Summer. But May is Summer's very threshold. If we have no poet to sing its praises, at least there is the British Travel and Holidays Association proclaiming, with full scientific authority, that May comes only second to June in the number of sunshine hours. To prove it they quote Meteorological Office records for the past 30 years taken from 16 selected observation posts in all parts of Britain.

June is normally the month when overseas visitors really begin flocking to our shores, but it would not surprise me if Princess Margaret's wedding on May 6 were to hasten the influx. Undoubtedly it will increase the year's total number of guests. Sir Arthur Morse, chairman of the B.T.H.A., has just told

us that the figure reached 1,390,000 in 1959, a ten per cent advance on 1958. This was gratifying enough, but he managed to startle a press conference with the information that in the past 12 years the number of tourists visitings Britain had gone up by about 180 per cent. After that, a few of us dared to challenge his prediction that 1960 will exceed the 1,500,000 mark.

### ANCIENT MONUMENTS RECORD

SIR ARTHUR contended, by the way, that our holiday guests seek out thatched cottages, curiosity shops and other romantic and historic spots for attractions they get in no other country in the world. How right he was has been interestingly confirmed by the Ministry of Works report that a record number of 6,500,000 visitors last year paid £288,000 to see the ancient monuments and historic buildings in its care. And Mr. Harmar Nicholls, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry, forecasts that the figures will be more than doubled in the next four or five years.

Amid these attractions, do not let us forget the Loch Ness Monster. This is Scotland's particular show-

piece, for which, as far as I know, England has no answer.

### AN "ATTRACTION OF MONSTERS"?

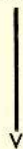
EVERY year about this time, there are rumours that this mysterious creature has been seen to break surface on the famous stretch of water in the Scottish Highlands. Thousands of holiday-makers go there with cameras and bring back remarkable pictures. But it has been left to Mr. Rankin, Member of Parliament for Govan, Scotland, to state in the House of Commons this month that "Nessie" is believed to have a gentleman friend lurking in the salty depths. This year, he said, watchers on the shore can expect to see one or two little "monsters" coming to the top. If one monster is enough to draw thousands of visitors to the Highlands, how many will a whole family of monsters bring?

My own favourite "Monster" of the deep is the 83,673-tons transatlantic Cunard liner Queen Elizabeth, a great bringer of guests to Britain. When I saw a friend off in her from Southampton the other day I noticed several innovations since my last voyage.

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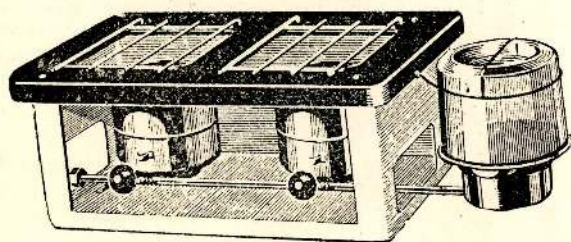
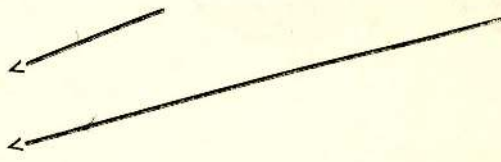
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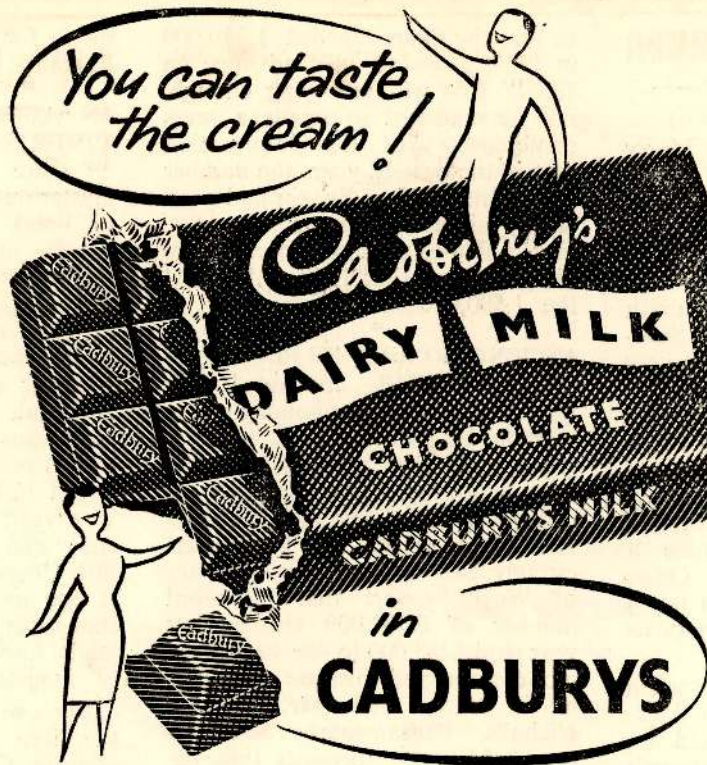


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PEOPLE

(Continued from page 21)

Mr. Ross, one time chairman of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, was a director of Mackwoods Ltd, for 23 years and retired as managing-director.

\* \* \*

MRS. Madeleine Denham-Till, who had been spending a holiday with her father, Dr. Lucian de Zilwa, in Kandy, has returned to her home in Canada, where she has been living for many years. Mrs. Denham-Till left Colombo by a jet plane on February 29 at 11 p.m. and was in Tokyo the following morning. Some Japanese ladies who had been with her at boarding school in London welcomed her at Tokyo and she spent three days with them, seeing the sights, including the great bronze Buddha of Kamakura.

From Japan, Mrs. Denham-Till flew to Honolulu for a day and then on to Los Angeles, where other friends entertained her for three days, showing her the lions and lionesses and their dens. And so home to Vancouver.

\* \* \*

DR. Ladislav Simovic, Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Republic in Ceylon, arrived at Ratmalana Airport on 7th April, and received a warm welcome. Born in 1915 at Bzince in Slovakia, and graduating from high school, he entered the Faculty of Philosophy of the Comenius University in Bratislava, from which he graduated as Doctor of Philosophy, specialising in Slavonic studies. From 1937 he was teaching as Professor until 1943, when he was arrested and imprisoned because of his political activities against the fascist government. In 1944 he took part in the Slovak national uprising against Slovak fascists and Nazi occupants. After the liberation of Czechoslovakia in 1945, he held several important functions in the State Administration in Slovakia until 1948 when he entered the services of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was appointed Ambassador to Bulgaria.

From 1954 until 1957, he was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. After the normalization of relations with Japan, he was appointed first Czechoslovak Ambassador to Tokyo which office he discharged until his present nomination as Amba-

sador of the Czechoslovak Republic to India, Ceylon and Nepal.

\* \* \*

THE Colombo South Circuit of the Methodist Church held a Farewell Social for Miss D. K. Williams, who left for England recently. Miss Williams has served the Methodist Church in Ceylon since 1932. She was Principal of Ripon, Galle, for six years; of the Badulla High School for four years; of Newstead, Negombo, for six years, and Chaplain for Methodist College during the last five years. She has also served for short terms at Ferens Girls School, and at Southlands in Galle.

\* \* \*

COL. P. A. J. Hernu, Chairman of the Colombo Port Commission from 1947 to 1955, has been appointed a director of Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., a ship-building and engineering firm in the United Kingdom.

\* \* \*

MR. M. G. Thornton, Managing Director, Messrs. Aitken, Spence & Co., Ltd., Mrs. Thornton and family left for England by air last week and will be away till the end of August. They were looking forward to meeting Mr. Thornton's parents, Mr. & Mrs. C. G. Thornton, formerly of Amherst, Halgranoja, who will be visiting the old country shortly, after a stay of nearly ten years in South Africa. Mr. & Mrs. Mike Thornton will spend most of their holiday with Mrs. Thornton's parents—Mr. & Mrs. Norman Bostock—in Newbury, Berkshire.

\* \* \*

MR. V. N. Pillai, Commissioner of Prisons, Ceylon, is in Australia under a Colombo Plan scholarship, studying the Australian penal methods and practices. He has visited South Australia and Victoria as well as New South Wales and has had policy discussions with the heads of prison departments and specialists in penological reform, and visited various types of penal institutions.

\* \* \*

MR. J. C. A. Corea, former Principal of Royal College, Colombo, has been appointed Education Officer with the Ceylon High Commission in London. His predecessor was Professor J. L. C. Rodrigo, formerly Professor of Classics at the Ceylon University.

MR. M. Tiruchelvam, Q.C., Solicitor General, has gone on leave preparatory to retirement. He reverts to the Unofficial Bar next month.

“PEAFOWL IS PEA FOWL”

(Continued from page 19)

This happened five mornings running and we had to admit defeat and pay a tribute to those watching eyes. Though we did shoot numbers of snipe and golden plover and some teal on that trip, we certainly got no peafowl.

The easiest way to shoot a peafowl used to be from a car. But I know a man who drove miles in his car on his work as an engineer in provinces, mostly jungle, from day to day over a period of nine years and shot only 21 peafowl in all that time. Not even three a year. So that was by no means satisfying besides his realization that he was breaking the law whenever he got a bird from his car. Today shooting a peafowl from a car is next to impossible, as the birds have been driven far off the roads by all the cultivation going on. Besides peafowl seem to have a great distaste for the modern car, and don't want to even look at one. It was different with the old crows.

THE DAYS ARE TOO SHORT

(Continued from page 9)

call and coded messages to different parts of the Commonwealth at convenient periods each day. Blue prints are being prepared by the Hawker-Siddeley-de Havilland combine.

\* \* \*

COMMONWEALTH FOCUS

MEANWHILE, the entire Commonwealth will soon have a common focus at Marlborough House, London near Buckingham Palace. The United Kingdom Government has just placed a £200,000 contract for the preparation of this magnificent mansion, formerly the home of the late Queen Mary, as a Commonwealth Centre. One of its most important uses will be as a meeting place for Commonwealth Prime Ministers when they assemble in London. Its Commonwealth reference library should make it a great rendezvous for students and visitors from overseas.

# A SPORTS CAUSERIE

—By "ITINERANT"—

## DAVIS CUP TENNIS

THE Indo-Ceylon Davis Cup tie was the main highlight of April sport. Played over three days, a good crowd was present on each day, the attraction no doubt being young Krishnan, India's Wimbledon hope. India, as expected, won easily, dropping not a set in the five matches. On the first day, in the Captain's match: Naresh Kumar trounced Pinto and Krishnan, Selvadurai, when Ceylon's No. 1, Rupert Ferdinands, was unavailable. Selvadurai, however, showed up to advantage with an occasional brilliant passing shot.

The Doubles was won by the Indians in relaxed fashion and they proved themselves a combination likely to go far in international competition. The tennis on this second day was, however, far more interesting than on the opening day. The best was yet to come through.

WITH his tie won, Kumar met Selvadurai and it was only the latter's impetuosity and unnecessarily erratic play—which led to the wasting of the easiest of winners—that caused him not to win at least one set. Many of his shots were as good if not better than Kumar's, but young Selvadurai showed a lamentable lack of temperament.

The last match saw Pinto at his best against Krishnan, but the latter always had plenty in reserve, not even Pinto's serve bothering him to any great extent. It was in this match, however, that Ceylon won the most number of games and this no doubt disappointed many Krishnan fans who had hitherto felt that he was a world-beater, which brings us to Krishnan himself.

Krishnan, a completely relaxed player in style, is a picture of concentration on court, so workmanlike that he appears almost an

automaton and completely remote from his gallery. A player with all the shots in the book, his whole game is based on intelligence. This means uncanny positioning which in turn means that the normal copybook shots suffice to win points and the brilliant shots spectators look forward to are conspicuous by their absence. Naturally audiences wonder about his calibre, not pausing for a moment to think that in his type of game brilliance is not essential.

And so to Wimbledon—and perhaps a centre court final. This should be his year, if it is ever to come.

## NATIONAL TENNIS-CHAMPIONSHIPS

AFTER a long break, the National Tennis Championships were once again held in Nuwara Eliya. But what a doleful tourney it proved to be from Ceylon's point of view. With Ceylon's No. 1, Rupert Ferdinands, out of the meet and our leading woman player suffering the effects of a muscle injury, every title (or portions of it) went across the Palk Straits.

The Indian challenge was spearheaded by Akhtar Ali (No. 5) and the title holder Sumant Misra, the former justifying his ranking, beating Misra (No. 6) in the Singles final. Misra then shared the Doubles title with Ceylon's Bernard Pinto and Akhtar Ali shared the Mixed Doubles title with Miss Appiah of India. Miss Appiah wrested Ceylon's Ranjani Jayasuriya's triple crown, winning the Singles title for her and sharing the Doubles title for her.

Pakistan's challenge by her Nos. 1 & 2—Said Haye and Pirzada was competent but unsuccessful in the face of the Indian strength.

## RACING

THE Nuwara Eliya racing season opened on a disastrous note for punters, not one favourite obliging and of the outsiders two—Huzam Khalid in the Ruwan Eliya Plate (5 furs 40 yds) and Chapel Rock in the Sita Eliya Stakes (7 furs.)—paying odds of over 20 to 1 and 13 to 1 respectively.

Main event for the day, Nuwara Eliya Mayor's Cup (7 furs.) was won by Balfour Declaration, Isaacs astride, who led from start to finish and just held on to gain the verdict after Friendly Isle's last moment



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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

storming challenge. Tragedy marred this race when Good Luck fell near the three, injured his spine and had to be destroyed.

This was just one of the many close finishes which had punters hoping for a photo-finish camera. Another close finish saw the unreliable Games Court just get the better of Persian Approach in the opening event, the Pedro Stakes (7 furs.) Then Chapel Rock just edged Mahal Trust in another close race.

For the rest of the racing, two newcomers made impressive debuts in the two divisions of the Kandapola Plate (5 furs. 40 yards)-La Mignonne winning the first division and Star of Confidence the second and Fayadhan Baghdad won the Watagoda Handicap (7 furs.)

Trainers Clement Walles and Samarawira each saddled a double while Jockey Gunadasa booted home a brace of winners.

\* \* \*

**P**OOOR entries were seen on the third and fourth days races in Nuwara Eliya but generally fancied horses obliged. Fairwind's facile victory in the Tom Wilson Plate, an impressive winning debut by Howdy Dowdy, trainer Renga Selvaratnam's treble, jockey Smith's double, and Huzam Khalid's 'neck' defeat preventing a three-in-a-row winning streak, were the highlights of the second day.

The third day's features were Fayadhan Baghdad achieving three-in-a-row and Sarracenia making it second, first, first—both giving trainer Samaranyake a double. Trainer A. Selvaratnam and apprentice R. Bulathsinhala each a double while newcomers Piery Goddess and Miss Anoma won at the second time of asking.

**T**HE second day of the Nuwara Eliya Race meet found punters faring better than on the first day, but nevertheless there was a stunning upset when Raj Kumar won the last race of the day. (The Single Tree Plate—1 mile) to pay out over 32 to 1 odds. Earlier, Huzam Khalid who had won on the first day at large odds once again repeated his success, this time in the opening event (The April Handicap—7 fur.) at almost 8 to 1 odds.

For the rest of the racing, fancied horses on the whole fared well. The main event of the day, the Lady Gregory Stakes—1 mile—was comfortably won by Tudor Dream, Gunadasa astride, and this jockey rode another good race to steer Anthony John home in the Punduloya Plate (9 fur.). These two favourites, together with a third, Myra's Boy, in the Moon Plain Stakes (7 fur.), helped the punters out considerably.

Two horses who were prominent on the first day—Sarracenia and Fayadhan Baghdad—duly obliged on the second day to wind up the racing. Sarracenia won the Oliphant Plate (1 mile) and Fayadhan Baghdad, the Hakgalla Plate (1 mile) providing trainer Samaranyake with a good double. Trainer Clement Walles had three winners.

\* \* \*

**Cricket—Sara Trophy**

**T**HE second week-end in April was a cricketing one, Sara Trophy matches holding the stage. An outright victory by the S.S.C. over the Moors virtually clinched the title for themselves, especially with the N.C.C. losing to the B.R.C. on the first innings.

Despite some good bowling by Nadheem (6 for 96) the S.S.C. piled up 238 for 9 decl., in reply to the Moors 64. Batting again the Moors were bundled out for 74,

(Continued on page 32)

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## A WOMAN'S DIARY

— By "BETA" —

THE other evening I was at a party, listening to a group of young mothers teasing one of their number, who had collected several books on baby and child care. Of course, it was all in fun, but I couldn't help wondering later just why we tend to take for granted that when we become mothers there will come, almost along with the baby, as it were, a fund of in-born knowledge on how best to take care of the child. Oh yes, we do ask our friends (especially those who happen to have had babies shortly before us) what they did and how they dealt with such problems as arose, but we do keep a secret, superior feeling that we will probably manage much better when it comes to our turn! That we should study the subject carefully, making good use of the numerous books now easily available, just does not strike us as at all necessary. And for those of you who think "well, most of those books are written by foreigners and deal with conditions alien to us," let me hasten to say that there are a fair number written by Ceylonese, especially for Ceylon mothers and babies.

\* \* \*

SOME time back, "education" meant merely book-learning—girls as well as boys went to school and studied Literature, Arithmetic, Geography, History, and so on, and when school days came to an end, girls became either "career girls", who went in for higher education, or "stay-at-home girls", who got married! But then people began to realise that marriage was as much a career as any other and that homes and families needed looking after, and girls should be trained to do this. So there began to be introduced into the curriculum of girls' schools such subjects as house-craft, cooking and sewing.

\* \* \*

IN recent years, of course, cooking and sewing have taken on an immense popularity. Almost as automatically as, some time ago, girls were sent for music and dancing lessons, we find the older girl now being sent for cooking and dress-making lessons. Several "schools" of cookery and dressmaking have been set up, and the subjects are faithfully and exhaustively dealt with in all their branches. Even

more ambitious are the finishing schools recently established which set out to teach girls all they should know for the successful and smooth running of their future homes, from the department they should adopt down to a working knowledge of home economics and interior decoration. This trend is much to be encouraged. It is but right that a girl should take pride in what is, after all one of the oldest and most rewarding careers for women—that of housewife.

\* \* \*

IT is only reasonable that modern advances in knowledge should be used to improve conditions in our homes, making them more comfortable and more efficient. As we realize more clearly that instead of men and women being merely equal, they were meant to complement each other, so it becomes more evident that all means to improve the partnership should be employed. But I cannot help feeling with all these advances that the care and nurture of children is still rather a neglected branch of the housewife's lore in this country. The domestic science courses in schools do go part of the way to remedying this, no doubt with lessons on how to look after a child and what food is suitable for young children and so on, but of necessity they cannot be detailed enough.

\* \* \*

IN the old spacious days when good servants were easily obtainable and families were large so that there was either a mother or aunt or older sister who could be with a girl when she became a mother and help her through the early difficult days when everything was strange and unknown, it was understandable that girls should wait till then, as it were, for their practical training in mother-hood, but in these days, when more and more girls find themselves in the position of having to care for their infants by themselves without any outside help, it becomes more and more necessary that such knowledge should be gained while there is time to assimilate it. The very fact that so many books on the subject are being produced only underlines the growing awareness that such knowledge is being sought after by those who wish to prepare themselves for the task they must perform.

IN more advanced countries it is becoming standard practice for those about to become mothers to be given a course of instruction in infant and child care in various ante-natal clinics. And after all, it does seem foolish not to avail ourselves of any help we can get. Having read some good books will enable us to enjoy our babies and be more relaxed about them when we have them. We don't need to wonder all the time what is happening and why—whether anything is seriously wrong, or whether a child is abnormal. With knowledge and the confidence it brings we will be able to do whatever duties are required of us calmly and efficiently, and find ourselves really enjoying our families. The result will be, our children too will be relaxed and happy, and grow up naturally and easily in a congenial atmosphere. Surely it is worth a little extra trouble on our part to ensure a happy childhood for our little ones.

## TRADE UNIONS IN BRITAIN

A tribute to the relationship between management and trade unions in Great Britain was paid in London by Mr. Albert Wilson Morrell, Assistant Labour Manager in the Colombo Port Commission. Mr. Morrell is in England attending a training course in labour administration at the Ministry of Labour school under arrangements made through the Technical Co-operation Scheme of the Colombo Plan. He described the course as most educative and useful. There is a fine feeling he said between management and unions in Britain and the trade unions are highly developed.

The people of Ceylon could well follow the example of the British working man. The working class in Britain was really conscious of what trade unionism was and showed great allegiance to it. The workers seemed to realise that the trade unions were there to fight for better conditions all the time and by regular and peaceful negotiations. The Ministry of Labour course covers industrial relations, social insurance, administration of labour laws, trade unions, welfare and training and includes visits to industrial centres such as Newcastle, Manchester and Cardiff. Conciliation and the nature of labour disputes are also discussed.

## A SPORTS CAUSERIE

(Continued from page 29)

having no answer to the Champion's bowling strength of S. de Alwis, R. B. Wijesinghe, C. I. Gunasekera, A. Polonowita and E. L. Pereira.

The N.C.C. in their match made an early declaration at 253 for 7, Tissera, Prins and Fuard being in the runs. Then Reid, Ingleton, Raj and Rudolph enabled the B.R.C. to get within striking range and the last two wickets added another 20 runs to enable the B.R.C. to score a patient victory.

In other major matches, the Varsity scored an easy 1st innings win over Negombo and Bloomfield did the same against the Caturans.

The Tamils B and the Moors B won into the final round of the Daily News Trophy tournament, scoring good wins over the N.C.C. (B) and Saracens B. Outstanding performance in these matches was the bowling of A. Kuthoos against the Saracens in their incomplete second innings. His figures read: 7-6-4-5. Of interest too was the debut in local big cricket of R. Laurie of the Australian High Commission. Laurie, an Australian University Cap, batted well the previous week in a 'friendly' against Dimbula, scoring 60-odd runs. Against the Tamils, he scored only 3 and took one for 14 in the second innings.

## SCHOOL CRICKET

THE last 'big match' of the schools season saw four hours of play washed out after two extra hours had been scheduled. The result: another draw, though Ananda appeared to have the edge over Nalanda. The first day ended with Ananda out for 190, a well compiled 54 by Mohanlal Fernando propping up the batting after four wickets had fallen for 37 runs. Skipper Y. Amaradasa's 38 added substance to the score, which was limited by the bowling of Nalanda skipper J. Perera (3 for 54) and R. Boyagoda (4 for 44). The next day, Nalanda's last pair held out to take the score to 100, thus avoiding the following on. M. Fernando once again showed his worth, taking 6 for 33. Ananda then declared at 81 for 2 and Nalanda were 128 for 5 at close.

THE National Schools C. A. Tournament for the Vincent's APC Challenge trophy was won by Western group (North) who beat Western group (South) quite comfortably by 6 wickets, after having only a one-run 1st innings lead.

In the Ceylon Schools Cricket Association tournament, Western Group East qualified at the expense of the more fancied Western Group North, while Colombo south Scored at facile outright win against Moratuwa Schools.

## CYCLISTS OLYMPICS TRIAL

AT the first Cyclists' Olympics trial, a standard of 19.8 m.p.h. had been set. No one qualified. At the second, the standard was 19.3 m.p.h. and three qualified with averages of 19.87 m.p.h. each for the 111.35 miles—thus bettering the original standard as well.

The three, who figured in a blanket finish, were, in finishing order: Maurice Coomaravel, Chandra Perera and Anthony Symons.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

THE rugger season opened with the traditional CH—CR Captains' game. Played in pouring rain, the match was won by the CH, 6—5 (2 tries to a goal) and despite the miserable playing conditions, a fair game was witnessed, with a surprising satisfactory standard for so early in the year.

A number of new faces were on view during the three chukkers, with both teams having numerous vacancies to fill, but no outstanding performances were noted amongst these. The best performances were turned in by the veterans—Lloyd Keith-Anderson, Hamson and Tait for the winners, Rambukwella, Cader, N. Gunawardena and Diaz for the C.R.

Of the new-comers, Dirckze and Rankine amongst the backs and Potuhera at scrum half were noted in the CR side, and on the CH side a new scrum half (whose name we did not catch) who was quite competent.

Tait and Harrison scored for the CH, Rambukwella, with Beven converting, for the C.R.

RUGGER'S premier tourney, the Clifford Cup, made an auspicious start when last year's Champions, Dimbula, met a rejuvenated K.V. XV. Kelani Valley for years have been the poor relations of Ceylon's big-time Rugby, but though they just lost this opening match they showed enough to prove themselves a force to be reckoned with.

Dimbula won 14-11 (1 goal, 3 tries to 1 goal and 2 tries). New comer Hurd at standoff, skipper Waring, Ceylon captain Barry Cameron and winger Larry Schokman were the winners best, while Thompson and Almeida shone for the losers.

The team to watch this year are likely to be the Havelocks—and young de Joedt, playing for them, shows promise of being the player of the year.

## A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

(Continued from page 15)

events, the preface to which was a denunciation of the Communist Party's "lying statement" at the height of the election campaign that there was a secret understanding between them and him. "This statement," he added, "was calculated to transfer to the MEP the odium in which it is held is in the public mind of Ceylon, and was no doubt motivated by the deliberate intention to prevent the democratic MEP forming a government".

The country was unable to give a clear majority to any party, he said, because of the clever and unscrupulous activities of the "discredited set of men who constitute the rump of the original SLFP", which he charges with having conducted a "necrophagous" election campaign.

AN expert from Ceylon will be among specialists from more than 30 countries who will review problems of veterinary education at a meeting to be held in London from April 25 to 29. The meeting has been called by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation and Ceylon's representative will be Professor C. A. McGaughey, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Science, of the University of Ceylon. The meeting hopes to design a training programme suitable for various countries.

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