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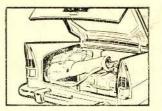
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SHELL PINK WINS THE QUEEN'S CUP



Photo by John & Co.

MR. Vernon Rajapakse's SHELL PINK, Baldwin Perera up, won the big racing event of the year, the Queen's Cup, on Saturday, 13th August, repeating his success of the previous year. The picture shows the finish of the race; the presentation of the Trophy by Mr. Sarath Wijesinghe and the winner being led in by the owner with Renga Selvaratnam, the trainer.

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mamamamamamama

The Government and the Press

THE Fortnightly Review is not affected by the policy of the Government towards the Press as reflected by the decision to take over the newspapers controlled by the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. and the Times of Ceylon Ltd. and vest them in statutory public corporations. It is our duty, nevertheless, to register our protest at a course of action which would undermine the survival of democracy by removing one of its corner stones—freedom of expression.

IN a free country, the rights enjoyed by the Press, as has often been pointed out, are no more than those to which every citizen is entitled. That is to say, as much as he may have his own opinion on any matter and give expression to it, so a newspaper may, in its comments, range itself on one side or the other on a public issue. But it must present the news impartially. No paper is, we believe, charged with departing from the accepted standards as sources of public information. Of course the two groups supported a party other than that which has been returned to power. How can it be held against them that other parties had no papers of equal merit to promote their interests?

THE announcement itself contains several contradictions. The proposed legislation, it is claimed, will ensure the democratic character of newspapers in this country and prevent abuse by the formation of unhealthy monopolies. When the only newspapers of worth are taken over by the state, and therefore cease to be critical of the government, how will they be democratic in character? And will not the state-controlled newspapers be unhealthy monopolies, since the emergence of rivals is virtually excluded?

THE two groups of papers which the Government want to turn into state organs include two English newspapers, each more than a century old, which have made an inestimable contribution to the evolution of the country to independence. The other language newspapers in the groups have been more responsible than any institution for inculcating political consciousness into the people until today Ceylon has probably the most educated electorate in Asia. After such a record of national service, to suppress them and to supplant them by mouthpieces of the state is to take the road to totalitarianism.

SINCE the Government intends in any case to appoint a commission to inquire into the functioning of the Press during the two general elections this year, had it better not await the report of the commission before taking any other action?

THE EDITOR.



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MATTERS OF MOMENT

-By BRUTUS-

IF Ceylon aroused the curiosity of the world by a woman becoming its Prime Minister, it gained notoriety in democratic countries by the decision of the Government to take over the Lake House and Times newspapers and vest them in statutory public corporations, as announced in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament in Independence Hall. The qualification that individual holdings in the proposed corporations, the share capital of which would be unlimited, would be restricted "so as to ensure a broadbased ownership" and the statement that the legislation was intended to ensure "the democratic character of newspapers in this country and prevent abuse by the formation of unhealthy monopolies", did not save the Government from attack from the Press of the Commonwealth as a blow at one of the fundamental freedoms in a democratic state.

The other policy statements almost paled into insignificance but are in fact significant of important developments in national life. A departure from tradition at the ceremony was that the Speech was read by the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, in Sinhalese only. It was subsequently read by two officials in Tamil and English. The gesture satisfied the Federalist members of Parliament, who remained in the hall where in previous years they used to walk out at this stage of the proceedings. The Speech was listened to by, besides the usual guests, a large number of people, invited through members from their constituencies, seated in the open outside the Hall.

SOME of the principal points from the Speech are: the law relating to treason is to be amended; a national system of education, "in conformity with the cultural, religious and economic aspirations of the people", is to be established; a commission is to be appointed to report on the re-organisation of the content of education; a scheme of national service for youth is to be introduced; a statement is to be issued setting out the conditions of investment of foreign capital,

which is welcomed; incentives are to be provided to the private sector for the production of essential commodities at present imported, and a bureau of standards is to be set up; life insurance is to be nationalised and legislation to control insurance generally introduced, but it is not considered advantageous to undertake the nationalisation of estates and plantations; a commission is to be appointed to investigate the political aspects of Mr. Bandaranaike's assassination and another to inquire into the functioning of the Press during the last two general elections.

AT midnight on the day of the opening of Parliament the Government increased the duty on a wide range of imports in order to raise revenue, conserve exchange and encourage and protect local production. The items affected included malt liquor and spirits, bicycles (which are being assembled locally) and spare parts, biscuits (production of which meets local requirements a hundred per cent,) boots and shoes (a growing local industry), chocolates, and other confectionery, air conditioners. nickel silverware, cosmetics, watches, tobacco, artificial silk, banians and shirts (which are locally produced in abundance and exports of which have been recorded), synthetic fibre and spun glass products, carpets, motor vehicles and petrol and oil.

The price of petrol went up by the amount of the duty, i.e. 40 cents, to Rs 3-10 a gallon, but the oil companies announced a general reduction of prices by seven cents irrespective of the increase in duty, so that the actual price was Rs. 3-03 cents. On the Government urging them to carry part of the new duty, the oil companies after long negotiation agreed to a further reduction of five cents.

The price of cars went up to correspond to the increased duty of 35 per cent preferential and 42 per cent general, but did not apply to cars in stock with dealers, provided they had not been sold at the higher prices.

IN a statement bearing on the increased duties, the Minister of Finance said that Ceylon's external assets had fallen progressively in recent years and in the past year the import of luxury goods had been a more severe drain on the assets than in earlier years. Accordingly the Government had taken measures which would have the effect of reducing such imports. The first of them was increase of the import duty on a number of items in selecting which care had been taken to exclude goods and commodities which are in use by the mass of the people so as to ensure that their cost of living is not affected. The second line of action was increase of the rate of interest at which commercial banks may borrow from the Central Bank to finance the import of luxury goods. A third line of action was the restriction of credit to hire pur-



The Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, presenting the Speech from the Throne to the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, at the opening of Parliament.

-MATTERS OF MOMENT-

chase companies for financing the purchase of non-essential commodities.

The Monetary Board of the Central Bank at the same time announced the increase of the rate of interest for advances to commercial banks secured by the pledge of Ceylon Government securities from 2½ per cent to 4 per cent while lending to them at 2½ per cent against the pledge of usance promissory notes relating to transactions concerning the importation, purchase, storage or transportation of essential commodities and financing local production.

The board declared its measures were designed to conserve foreign exchange reserves particularly for economic development by discouraging the importation of certain types of goods by (a) insistence on minimum margin requirements for letters of credit for certain imports and (b) restraint on the expansion of bank credit for financing certain imports and hire-purchase operations.

The new duties were generally received without complaint except for the rise in internal transportation costs caused by the increase in the price of petrol.

THE President of the Ceylon Estates Employer's Federation Mr. A. R. Cathcart, at the annual general meeting of the association on August 17, said that the problem of surplus population on estates, as his predecessor had rightly remarked in his presidential address last year, was one which threatened the very stability of the plantation industries. The acreage under cultivation in tea and rubber had remained fairly static over the last 20 or even 30 years but about 50,000 additional workers have been found employment thereon.

In the meantime the resident Indian population had increased by about two lakhs and was nearly nine lakhs at the end of 1959, and it was said that at the present rate of growth, the population of Ceylon would double itself in 25 years. Estates which were finding it impossible to accommodate and employ even the nine lakhs already resident thereon, could not obviously cope with any further increase, still less a two-fold increase.

Furthermore while the internal pressures were already bursting estates at the seams, there were also the external pressures for employment from unemployed youth of neighbouring villages whose numbers were multiplying equally fast. Representations were made on this subject to the late Prime Minister and the association would now make representations to the new Government as well.

MR. Cathcart congratulated the new Government on its victory. Now that Ceylon had a government with a clear majority, he hoped that it would give Ceylon the stable and constructive leadership which the



Mr. Selwyn Lloyd

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in the recently reconstructed British Government, in succession to Mr. Derick Heathcoat Amory.

country needed, he might even say, so desperately needed. As a federation representing the plantation industries, it was deeply conscious of the very vital role played by these industries in the economy of the country. It realised that by promoting their efficiency and productivity, it made a substantial contribution to the country's progress and prosperity. He would, therefore, on behalf of the federation, assure that new Government of their best efforts and fullest co-operation in this respect.

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Deploring the widespread pressure towards lowering all standards of work and conduct, he said it was not surprising that labour-management relations were, generally speaking, at a very low ebb. While they should take firm and positive measures to deal with bad work and conduct, they should also seriously consider how labour-management relations themselves could be improved.

He had as a matter of interest got the office to examine a few company accounts, and it was found that direct labour costs by themselves amounted to between 40 and 50 per cent. of the gross income, as against 5 to 10 per cent. of such income that goes to the shareholders.

A^N appeal for funds urgently needed was made by Mr. C. H. Davidson, Warden of St. Thomas' College, Colombo, in his prize-day address at St. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa, last week. He also paid a tribute to the work at Gurutalawa of Dr. Rollo Hayman, Head Master of the school.

In the absence of Dr. Rollo Hayman out of the Island, the Rev. A. J. Foster presented the report at the prize-giving and welcomed Mr. Davidson. He said it would mean a great deal to raise a sum of Rs. 15,000 which would dispel the nightmare of unpaid bills.

IT is to the credit of Britain that, despite the demerits and shortcomings of colonialism, she has been, among Colonial Powers, the least exacting, the most enlightening and, on the whole, the most attentive to the needs and aspirations of peoples", said Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, Ceylon High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, in London recently when addressing the Royal Commonwealth Society on "Ceylon and the Commonwealth". should, therefore, be no great cause for surprise that the peoples who have gained their independence from Britain should entertain feelings of regard and friendship for their erstwhile colonial rulers and that there should be a common bond of sentiment binding them to one another as well as to Britain", said

MATTERS OF MOMENT-

Mr. de Soyza. "The touch of colonialism, if it makes the Commonwealth link, has indeed done some good".

It was no longer allegiance to the Crown which united members of the Commonwealth, he said. From July 1, there would be three republics within the Commonwealth, with more to follow, including Ceylon, and there was also a monarchy. 'These are interesting developments, and the fact that they have taken place and have willed to take place is further proof that the Commonwealth is wanted by those who are in it", said Mr. de Soyza.

The Commonwealth was an organisation that had grown along club lines with a group of nations not bound by treaties, such as on defence and trade. "It is this informality of the club atmosphere that makes membership of the Commonwealth both pleasant and so productive of results".

AT the request of the Secretary General of the United Nations the Prime Minister has had the Army send a group of ten officers and other ranks to the Congo (Belgian) Republic to serve with the United Nations Forces. They left for Leopoldville last week.

The officers are: Major A. J. Z. Navaratne of the general staff, and Major C. J. Caldera and Capt. T. N. Gunewardena, both of the C.L.I.

THE Fortnightly Review is privileged to publish, in this number, an article by Sir John Howard, Q.C., former Chief Justice of Ceylon, on the Reconstruction of the British Government. Sir John has been a keen student of politics from his university days and how keenly he follows contemporary developments was borne out by his forecast in this journal, of the Conservative victory at the last British general election.

Sir John retired from Ceylon 11 years ago but retains the keenest interest in the Island, events in which he follows as a founder reader of the Fortnightly.

MR. B. K. Kapur, the new High Commissioner for India in Ceylon, who presented his credentials recently, said in a broadcast talk on India's Independence Day that he could only wish and hope that the field of co-operation and collaboration between Ceylon and India might grow still wider and that the two countries might march together hand in hand, in peace and prosperity.

He said that it was particularly gratifying that under Ceylon's new Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandaranaike, Ceylon was committed to the task of establishing a welfare state as they in India were developing.



Sir John Howard, Q.C.

TRANSLATIONS of Sinhalese and Tamil classics into Tamil and Sinhalese have been undertaken by the Sahitiya Mandalaya of the Cultural Affairs Department. Hisselle Dhammaratana Thera. vice Principal of the Balagalla Sarasvati Pirivena, will translate the Mahavamsa into Tamil under the guidance of Prof. K. Kanapathipillai of the University of Ceylon. The Tamil classic Thirukkural is to be translated into Sinhalese verse by Mr. Charles Silva of Trinity College, Kandy, assisted by Mr. N. Selvadurai also of Trinity College.

The department has commissioned Mr. S. Nadarasa, a son of the poet Somavarna Pulavar of Jaffna, to render the Selalihini Sandesaya into Tamil.

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THE Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations estimates world tea production in 1960, excluding China and Soviet Russia, at 1,720 million lb, 2 per cent above the revised 1959 estimate of 1,686 lb. Ceylon's output is forecast at 420 million lb. as compared with 413.1 million lb. in 1959.

Production in Africa is expected to rise to 103 million lb. in 1960, five times more than during 1935-39 and double the 1950-54 average.

Soviet production in 1959 was approximately 63.9 million lb. as against 60.8 the previous year, while China's output has gone up 8 per cent to 337.3 million lb.

THE hair pin bend on the Kadugannawa pass was the scene
of a rare but terrible accident last
month, a lorry carrying a party of
excursionists, mostly children,
plunging down the precipice, killing
thirteen. Thirty-three were injured
Only a girl of 12 escaped injury.
The driver was among those killed.

The children were from a school in Kuliyapitiya and the rest were teachers and parents. The lorry was going down the incline and according to the uninjured girl, was being driven slowly. No mechanical defect was discernible in the lorry. The accident is attributed to an error of judgment on the part of the driver.

A well known Ceylonese doctor, who has been away in America for some time, writing to us last week says-"Thank you for sending me the Fortnightly Review so regularly. It is the ideal paper for those who are far away from home and wish to keep in touch with events in Ceylon. I usually read it from cover to cover the day it arrives. It will be wonderful to get home again. America is truly a fabulous land in many ways. There are only two things that one can complain about here—one is the long, cold, dreary winter and the other is the fear of getting ill as hospital charges are the highest I have ever come across".

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POST OFFICE BLOWS ITS TRUMPET

BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON-

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

HE (or she) has gone to the Post Office', we are told, and the news is about the least startling that could fall on our ears. No one expects adventures at the Post Office. There are no sensational bargains, few convivial encounters and little chance, if any, of meeting with those unpredictable elements which make for excitement. In fact, the better the Post Office does its job, the more we take its quiet functioning for granted.

This year, however, post offices all over the United Kingdom have about them a touch of gala spirit which, I observe, refuses to be quelled by the day-to-day necessity of selling stamps, issuing dog, gun, and radio and television licences, or dealing with pensions, savings certificates and premium bonds. The girls behind the counters seem more glamorous and, if possible, more efficient than ever. And no wonder, for they and the other 300,000 or more members of this vast Government department are celebrating the Post Office's 300th birthday.

DATES FROM CHARLES II

IT was in 1660, the first year of the reign of King Charles II, that an Act of Parliament established the "General Letter Office", the oldest of Britain's State undertakings. In those days, and for nearly 200 years afterwards, postal charges were based on the actual distance a letter was carried. It was not until 1840 that a celebrated British Postmaster-General, Rowland Hill, established uniform postage rates, Pre-paid by adhesive postage stamps. This principle has since been imitated in almost every country in the world.

To mark the Tercentenary, we are to have special threepenny and one shilling and threepenny stamps on sale in July. The threepenny, the stamp for letters, and the one in most common use, will be twice the normal size and printed in violet. An advance copy sent me by the Post Office shows, alongside a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, a postboy on horseback blowing

a horn and above, the cypher "C II" (for Charles the second) with the date, 1660.

BRITAIN LEADS THE WORLD

BUT what will strike many people as the most practical celebration of Tercentenary Year was the introduction by the Post Office in June of a revolutionary method of sorting letters automatically. With this, as in the case of adhesive stamps, Britain leads the world.

The experiment began the other day in the manufacturing town of Luton, Bedfordshire, England, where



Mr. Antony Head, former British Defence Minister, who has been appointed the first United Kingdom High Commissioner in the Federation of Nigeria on the Federation's achievement of full independence on October 1. The Queen has approved that a Viscountcy be conferred on Mr. Head.

the prototype equipment has been installed. Letters posted in Luton are date-stamped, then fed into the machine and watched through a window by an operator who used a keyboard like the one on a type-writer. He types the first three, and the last two letters of the name of the town in the address as for example, LIVOL for Liverpool. A coding device prints a pattern

of phosphorescent dots on each letter package which are then fed into an electronic machine. The machine, using ultra-violet rays, "reads" the spots and sorts the letters into the right boxes for transit.

If the experiment is a success, sorting by hand will eventually disappear as outdated as the horn-blowing postboy on the tercentenary stamps.

RAILWAY LUXURY TRAVEL

DOLLIS Hill, in North-West London, is the site of the mysterious-looking, radio-masted Post Office research station where the automatic sorter was designed. There must be something stimulating in the air of those parts, for it was on the track skirting Dollis Hill that British Railways' newest diesel-electric Pullman express was tried out the other morning. Air conditioned, smooth and quiet, this beautiful train—the first of five costing altogether about £2,000,000 has the "feel" and interior decor of an airliner. The double-glazed windows have Venetian blinds and the floors are insulated from vibra-

It certainly looks as though the railways are now challenging the airlines for comfortable, quick travel. I hear of many people who, because of road congestion, are leaving their automobiles in the garage during the summer holidays, preferring the dependable time-keeping of the train services and freedom from driving worries.

To make vacations even more enjoyable, all we need now is the spreading out of the holiday periods. This was strongly advocated at a recent conference called by the British Travel and Holidays Association, and attended by delegates from organisations representing teachers, hoteliers and the tourist and transport industries.

Although visitors from overseas throng Britain from May to September, about 50 per cent. of the "natives", it was revealed, take their holidays between mid-July and mid-August.

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FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

-By CROSS-BENCHER-

NOTHING in the policies and programmes of any government in Ceylon has been so vehemently and so widely criticised as the decision of the SLFP to take over the two groups of newspapers of the country and turn them over to public corporations. Hardly a day has passed since the opening of Parliament, when the intention of the government was announced, without some comment being made on it in some part of the Commonwealth, in which the principle of freedom of expression is particularly cherished and the Ceylon Press enjoys a high reputation.

We have expressed elsewhere in this issue of the Fortnightly our own views on the attitude to the Press of the Government. Here we give excerpts from some of the comments made by organizations representative of the Press and individual newspapers.

COMMONWEALTH Press
Union: In our opinion these
proposals, if implemented, will
deny to the subject his fundamental
right of access to sources of information outside government control.
We further believe that the proposals
are inconsistent with representative
government and will be injurious
to the reputation of Ceylon throughout the Commonwealth.

The International Press Institute: Whatever form legislation may take, the Speech from the Throne today makes it clear that the Government, under the guise of broadening the ownership, means to exercise direction over a press which has opposed it politically in the last elections. Government intrusion into newspaper ownership and forced sale of newspaper interests will mean the end of press freedom and can only undermine confidence in this government's intention to maintain that democracy which the people of Ceylon have so far enjoyed.

THE Times: The newspapers will be handed over to public corporations with unlimited share capital, nd a specious air of broadbased ownership is given to the

scheme by declaring that individual holdings will be limited to small amounts. The smaller the share-holders, of course, the more certain the government control. The crucial question, however, is not whether the base is broad or narrow but whether the ownership is free.

The Guardian: It will appear to most foreign observers that the two companies are being punished for their opposition to the Sri Lanka Freedom Party during the elections. When the government goes wrong, as all governments do from time to time, who is now to point it out? The public corporations, or the newspapers remaining unnationalised? If so, they are risking the same fate.

The Daily Telegraph: The true motive here is rooted not in party policy but in personal vindictiveness. The Press was sharply critical of the late Mr. Bandaranaike when he was Prime Minister and has not restrained itself when commenting on some of the shadier aspects of left-wing politics in Ceylon. Therefore, it must be taught a lesson now that a left-wing party are the "masters". The Government of Ceylon should think again before they find themselves criticised and distrusted wherever the Press is free.

THE Scotsman: The Ceylon government do not want to do without newspapers; they only want to tame them; and the setting up of two public corporations seems to them the appropriate way of doing so. It is odd that, under the pretence of safeguarding the liberty of the Press, such measures should be introduced, but few governments relish the growth of a free and powerful press.

*

The News Chronicle: Mrs. Bandaranaike may have cause for complaint against the conduct of the Press in her country. She may not intend to abuse the powers which she now demands. But freedom of the Press is too vital a principle to be cast away because it is sometimes abused, and the temptations of power are too great to entrust the Press to the state.

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THE Sunday Observer: In most countries the freedom of the Press is abused, but the situation would not be improved by making it a branch of the government. Governments today are, nearly everywhere, too powerful. The critisism of these governments in the Press is one of the few means left to the governed for influencing the men who control their lives.... A free press, in its fallible way, is the guardian of government sanity as well as of personal liberty.

The Sunday Express: The official reason, to ensure the democratic character of the newspapers in the country and prevent abuse by the formation of unhealthy monopolies. But what could be more unhealthy and more frightening than a newspaper monopoly by the state itself? In every country the surest guardian of democracy is an unfettered press.

The Sunday Dispatch: Ceylon's government inclines strongly leftwards. It excuses its deviation by claiming that nationalisation will prevent abuse by the formation of unhealthy monopolies. This is humbug, for once the state has control over the Press it is itself in a monopolistic position. Unlike the proprietors and managements of newspapers, government can protect themselves from all opposition. It is only one step from a state-owned press to a dictatorship.

THE Times of India: The Government's decision has apparently been motivated by a spirit of vindictiveness.... Once the newspapers owned by the two groups are taken over by the two statutory corporations they will become in practice the organs of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, and it is small consolation that these newspapers will become the mouthpiece of some other party if and when the SLFP is defeated at the polls.

The Hindu: Elections always evoke strong feelings, which are sometimes expressed in too exuberant a fashion. But the accepted tradition in democratic countries is for the parties concerned to forget what had happened immediately before an election and to look to the future. In case there has really been a serious transgression of the proprieties, the Ceylon Government

(Continued on page 31)

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RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

——By SIR JOHN HOWARD, Q. C.——
Former Chief Justice of Ceylon

(Fortnightly Review Special)

AFTER nine months in power, the long expected reconstruction of the British Government has now taken place. Mr. Butler, the senior Minister after Mr. Macmillan and generally regarded as the latter's successor, remains undisturbed at the Home Office, leader of the House of Commons, and Chairman of the Conservative Party. But two vital posts are affected by the changes.

Heathcot-Amory, tenure of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer has lasted longer than was anticipated when he undertook this office at the request of the Prime Minister on the resignation of Mr. Thorneycroft, retires from politics and becomes a Viscount. He is replaced by Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, a hard working and ambitious politician who has been Foreign Secretary since Mr. Antony Eden succeeded Sir Winston Churchill as Prime Minister in 1955; no doubt Mr. Lloyd was due for a change. He is an able, assiduous and experienced administrator who, prior to becoming involved in foreign affairs, was reputed to be more interested in economic matters. His place as Foreign Secretary will be taken by Lord Home, a member of the House of Lords and up till now Secretary for Commonwealth Re-Mr. lations. Duncan becomes the holder of the latter office, whilst his place as the Minister of Aviation is taken by Mr. Thorneycroft, a former rebel. It will be remembered that in January 1958, he resigned his office as Chancellor of the Exchequer when his views in regard to the reduction of Government expenditure were not accepted by the Prime Minister.

A NOTHER rebel to return to the fold is Mr. Enoch Powell, who becomes Minister of Health. In order to meet the situation that arises from the Foreign Secretary not being a member of the House of Commons, Mr. Heath—a rising and powerful figure in the Conservative party—gives up his im-

portant job as Minister of Labour to become attached to the Foreign Office and to answer questions relating to Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons. Mr. Heath is succeeded as Minister of Labour by Mr. Hare, previously Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Soames, now Minister for War, succeeds to the latter Office. Mr. Profumo, now Minister of State in the Foreign Office, becomes Minister for War.

The appointment of Lord Home as Foreign Secretary has met with considerable criticism which has not been confined to the Opposition.



Lord Home

The new Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in succession to Mr. Selwyn Lloyd. Lord Home had been Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations for over five years and since 1957 he had also been Leader of the House of Lords.

Normally an appointment of this nature is made without any previous notice of the Prime Minister's intention. In the case of Lord Home there was a leak in regard to his appointment. The result was that for some days before it was made, it received wide discussion in the Press. The Opposition opposed the appointment not only because the new Foreign Secretary

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would not be a member of the House of Commons, but also by reason of Lord Home's past record. A debate in the House of Commons on the appointment, when made, was promised by the Government. It seemed that the Government in that debate would be confronted by opposition not only from the Labour and Liberal parties but also from a section of the Conservative Party.

IN the debate the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Gaitskell, objected to the appointment because it contravened the principle that the Foreign Secretary should be a member of the House of Commons. Also on personal grounds based on the following reasons: (1) There were four other members of the Government whom he named with prior claims and superior qualifications to Lord Home; (2) Lord Home accompanied Mr. Neville Chamberlain to Munich as his private Secretary; (3) Lord Home had urged the Labour Government to use force in the dispute in 1951 over the seizure by the Iran Government of the Abadan refinery. For the Liberal Party Mr. Clement Davies objected to Lord Home's appointment because he thought the Foreign Secretary should be in a position to answer questions in the House of Commons. Only one Conservative Member—Mr. Nabarro—expressed disapproval of the appointment. At the same time he declared his intention of voting for the Government as a mark of his confidence in the Prime Minister who had made the appointment. Mr. Macmillan justified the appointment of Lord Home as foreign Secretary on the following grounds:-

- (1) There were no constitutional grounds debarring a member of the House of Lords from being Foreign Secretary.
- (2) The nature of the office required the attendance of the Foreign Secretary at International Conferences for a considerable part of the year. In the last year Mr. Selwyn Lloyd had been out of the country for 125 days.
- (3) Foreign Affairs had more and more become a matter of consultation and discussion between the heads of Government. In the circumstances, questions

(Continued on page 25)

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QUEEN'S CUP DAY

BRILLIANT SCENES ON THE RACECOURSE

By GAY CRUSADER

THEY'RE off—and for the second year in a row it was Mr. Vernon Rajapakse's Shell Pink all the way in the Blue Riband of the local Turf, the Queen's Cup, high spot of that searon of the year, August.

And so once again Mr. Rajapakse took the coveted double—the Roberts' Cup and the Queen's Cup—and to make it the three major trophies for this year and last year as well, his Shell Pink had each year won the C.T.C. cup as well earlier. Quite an owner of champions is Mr. Rajapakse.

ON August's second Saturday, jockey Baldwin Perera almost laughed his way to victory on Shell Pink as he shot out from barrier rise, out-paced the field and kept up a steady pace until the finish. At the distance Foley on Tudor and what a Dream challenged challenge it was as he thrashed his mount, but Shell Pink who had plenty in hand did not need to pull out any of his reserves as he went past the post a winner by a long neck. Select Allow, badly ridden, came with a late burst of speed to nip Summer Gold out of third place on the post.

If Shell Pink proved himself every inch a champion by the way he toyed with his opposition, then there is another champion in the making, Fiery Goddess. "The Goddess," running on promotion in Class II with a fair handicap, romped home in the Lawyers' Cup after pulling out a second run to trounce Miss Eleanor and Minette.

RACING opened with two minor upsets, two "good things' being beaten thanks to the carelessness of their respective jockeys. Miss Anoma annexed the Kundasale Plate (6 fur) from La Parisienne, a newcomer of note, and in the gentleman riders' race, the W. M. Rajapakse Cup, Mr. Kumar Perera was victorious for the third year in succession this time on The Locksmith, beating hot favourite Pippa's Brother.

Running true to form in the Lunugala Plate (6 fur), Badir Ubaid upset all the public's fancies to pay out the day's largest dividend. And the day's racing wound up with two favourites obliging—Jamal Karim in the N. M. de Silva Plate (14 miles) and Abu al Iz in the Colombo Cup (6 fur)

Trainer A. Selvaratnam saddled a trio of winners, while his son Renga saddled the Champion. Riding honours were shared.

de

A crowd worthy of the occasion graced the course and though all the glamour of previous Cup Days was absent, the Fashion Parade was as eye-catching and colourful as ever and a minor surprise were the number of men in suits and ties. And as though to send this 'occasional' crowd away happy, the horses too obliged, favourites winning and the Rs. 17/treble being one of the smallest dividends for the event in many a year.

CAPPER CUP FOR COLOMBO

THE Monday that followed this Saturday was, of course, "Rugger Day", when up-Country met Colombo for the Capper Cup, on the Racecourse.

After a lapse of five years, Colombo regained the Cup out right, winning 18-15 almost on time. But if the score was close and there was little to choose between the two teams, there was still little excitement generated by the match, for it was one of the dreariest of the whole season.

THE only gem of the match was young Lorenz Pereira's victory-bringing solo try for Colombo. With three minutes to go, the ball came to him, high, on the up-Country 40. His stride broken by his leap for the catch, he punted the ball over a defender's head, raced round him to catch it fall and sped for the corner flag, out manoeuvring three more defenders. It must be one of the season's best tries.

Other highlights of the match were the brilliant place-kicking of Gauder for up-Country, de Joedt's goal kicking for Colombo, which was overshadowed by Gauder's efforts, the opportunism of Colombo's Keith-Anderson, who intercepted and raced 80 yards for a try, and the fighting qualities of both packs, who each initiated a try from their passing bouts.

With each side scoring nine points from penalties, the forwards battling it out and the halves woefully weak, the three-quarters were, for the most part of the match, out of the picture—and there went any hope of an interesting clash.

What a let-down after a thrill packed season!

OUTSTATION SCHOOLS SHINE

TWO days earlier, on Saturday the outstation Schools trounced the Colombo Schools, 22-6, to gain the Gratiaen Cup. Colombo were no match for the Buultjenstrained outfit and it was Buultjens junior who mainly (wrought havoc with the Colombo team.

LADIES HOCKEY

A UGUST hockey's highlights was the women's tournament, which was won by the Colombo Ladies, who went through the season unbeaten. They were followed by the Ceylonese Ladies, the B.R.C. and the Dehiwela 'Y', the lastnamed a team new to women's hockey in Ceylon.

The men meanwhile were battling it out for the Pioneer Cup and the Tamils entered the finals trouncing the C.R. & F.C. 10-0, the score a major surprise. In the other half the B.R.C. held a weakened Havelocks, the Andriesz Shield Champions, to a 2-all draw in the semi-final, which has now to be replayed.

IN MEMORY OF A GREAT TURFITE

ON Queen's Cup day at the August races, two minutes silence was observed before the beginning of the meeting in memory of Mr. R. L. Pereira, patron of the Turf Club and a former steward.

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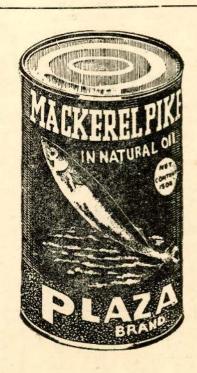




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THE VALUE OF THE CLASSICS

--- By D. G. L. MISSO ---

(President of the Classical Association of Cevlon)

II.

THE reasons for the flowering of the Greek genius are many and are instructive. The Greeks had natural talents of a high order, among them an open-mindedness, an eagerness to learn and a capacity to look behind facts to the principles. Many circumstances fostered the exercise of their gifts. The genial climate gave them an open-air life which was intensely social. The factors of geography and economics made them ready travellers among the islands and along the shores of the Mediterranean and brought them among the motley peoples of that region. The Greek was in fact very much a Ulysses, who says of himself:

"Always roaming with a hungry heart

Much I have seen and known cities of men

And manners, climates councils, governments."

Over and above the Greek practised no xenophobia at home but welcomed the stranger in his midst.

POLITICALLY the Greeks enjoyed freedom (I speak of their greatest era). Their organisation was that of the city-state, the city with its appurtenant land being the state, and its Assembly or legislative body consisting of all its citizens. Your citizens would today be voting on a bill, tomorrow holding office on the Council of State, another day he would be juryman in the lawcourts, and when it was time for campaigning would join his regiment or his ship, thus governing and being governed by turns. political life gave him a wealth of experience, a capacity for public speaking, tolerant discussion and the forming of judgments. Listen to Pericles, her greatest statesman, on the qualities of the Athenians and compare them with ourselves in our civic and public life so many centuries after:

"Poverty is no bar, but a man may serve his country, however poor, and obscure his origin. We recognise merit wherever we see it.

There is no exclusiveness in our public life. We like to do as we please, and we are glad to see our neighbour do as he pleases. There is a spirit of reverence in our public life, a great respect for the authority of the magistrates and for the laws which protect the injured, and for the unwritten laws, to break which means admitted shame. Our city is great and open. We do not expel foreigners; any foreigner may come and go as he will; and the more he learns the better, for our city is the model city. We expect a man to take an interest in public affairs, and if he does not, we think him useless. We expect him to become a sound judge of what the nation ought or ought not to do ".

This then was the soil from which the Classical civilisation sprang. As a phenomenon alone it is worthy of study. In studying it we have the special advantage of surveying a civilisation that presents a complete whole. We can trace its beginnings, watch its development and see the causes that made it wane. Of the Classics it can be said that there is no human experience, no human problem or speculation that they have not explored or for which they have not suggested an answer. They have distilled the thoughts and emotions that are common to all men. It is by their universality that they have survived time. They cannot therefore be alien anywhere.

THE Roman conquest of Greece took the Classics westward to fertilise the Empire. It is interesting to speculate on the results for the East had Persia or some other Eastern power conquered Greece after its flowering. Alexander the Great did attempt to Hellenize the East but the experiment was as brief as his own life.

It is a commonplace that the study of the Classics exercises a mental discipline, leads to precision of language and clarity of thought, a necessary antidote to verbal extravagance, metaphor, cliche, that often conceal poverty of idea. But what is as valuable is the continual association with beauty of

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language and nobility of thought. There is much else of value in it to us in our time and place. In our present experiment with democracy, which is a Greek idea, we cannot do better than consult the experience of the Greeks, who learned to live by the rule of law, to practise equality and tolerance and true patriotism. The study of their philosophical speculations, many of which show a kinship to those of Eastern philosophers, can be very fruitful.

DERHAPS the most admirable feature of the Greek and Roman attitude is that intellectually they kept their windows open to all the winds that blew. Whatever the Greeks found of interest in the Mediterranean lands, they borrowed, precious little as it was, yet on these meagre borrowings they founded arts and sciences and launched on daring speculation. The Greek Classics inspired those of Rome and, when rediscovered ages later, inspired the Renaissance, a spiritual and intellectual stirring that has hardly yet subsided. The Classics still have power to cause such stirring.

A visitor to a famous picture gallery is said to have remarked to the attendant: "I don't know why people fuss about these pictures. I can't see anything in them'. To which the attendant made the sublime reply: "Excuse me, Sir, the pictures are not on trial."

In the presence of the Classics it is we who are on trial.

NEW CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER

MR. James George, who succeeds Mr. Nik Cavell as Canadian High Commissioner to Ceylon, arrived by the S. S. "Victoria" on August 16. Mr. George began his diplonatic career in 1945, and has served abroad in the Canadian Embassy in Athens, with the Canadian Delegation to the United Nations in New York, and most recently with the Canadian NATO Delegation in Paris.

Mr. George was born in Toronto, Ontario, and is a graduate of the University of Toronto. He also studied at the University of Grenoble, in France. In 1940 Mr. George was selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

PEOPLE

SIR John Howard, Q.C., our former Chief Justice, writing to us from his home in West Byfleet, Surrey, on 8th August, says: "I saw the first two days of the Lord's Test match between England and South Africa and on the whole I think I can say that they were two interesting days. At the same time there were no fireworks. The nearest approach to spectacular play came from Dexter.

"It seems to me that the chief reason why cricket has become so boring is that both sides rely almost entirely on their fast bowlers. The latter waste a great deal of valuable time in running up to the wicket. I had a talk with Bill Greswell, "Creeper" Fellowes, Phil May and "Policeman" Dowbiggin. They all seemed in very good form.

"Well you now have a new government. As it has a clear majority over other parties there is a prospect of some stability. I have heard very good reports of the Finance Minister. His father, of course, worked under me and was a great friend".

MR. John S. Weir, former Managing Director of Messrs Brown & Co., Ltd., who left Ceylon a few years ago, with Mrs. Weir, to settle down in retirement in Garelochhead, in the county of Dumbartonshire, Scotland, writes the following cheery letter to us, on the 29th July.—"I greatly look forward to receiving the Ceylon Fortnightly Review since it contains all the news of old friends and acquaintances.

Even if I held another opinion the Review would still have to come as my wife reads it from cover to cover. May you be long spared to continue the good work. We send you our very best wishes and hope you are in good health". Mr. Weir was a very popular member of the Colombo Rotary Club and was at one time its President.

DR. M. U. S. Sultanbawa of the University of Ceylon and Dr. R. O. B. Wijesekera of the Medical Research Institute will represent Ceylon at the international chemical conference to be held in Australia next month.

THE musical tradition in the family of the late Mr. W. E. Mack, revered schoolmaster of Wesley College, is being well maintained by his grandsons, Brian and David, sons of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. F. Mack, who are on a visit to Ceylon. Brian won a scholarship to the Royal Academy, where he specialized in the viola and is now a member of the statesponsored Radio Eireanu symphony orchestra in Dublin. David is an engineer with Ransomes and Rapier of Colchester, England, and also a keen musician. His instrument is the cello. He is a member of the Ipswich Orchestra Society.

Two aunts of the young Macks, Ethel and Ithalie, have gained a high reputation as teachers of music. An uncle, Elmer, who won the University Scholarship from Wesley College was in the Indian Civil Service and ended his career as a judge of the high court.

THE death occurred on Sunday, 7th August, in Colombo, of Mr. R. L. Pereira, Q.C., the foremost criminal lawyer of the past generation, at the age of 80. Son of Mr. J. E. R. Pereira one of the leading proctors of his day, and nephew of Mr. Justice Walter Pereira, the eminent jurist, and of Mr. H. J. C. Pereira one of the great advocates of his time, Mr. Pereira started practice in 1905. He took silk 23 years later. Reputed for the diligence with which he applied himself when he accepted a brief, he was in almost every cause celebre in the recent past, and over the more than half century that he practised won a memorable place for himself in Hulftsdorp. He was a Commissioner of Assize for a short time.

A busy advocate though he was, he made no small contribution to public and social life. He was a member of the Colombo Municipal Council and of the Legislative Council, chairman of a salaries commission, a steward and later patron of the Ceylon Turf Club. He played rugby football in his youth and was a popular clubman in later life. He was also a vice-President of the YMBA. His wife and son (Mr. R. G. C. Pereira, a rising advocate), predeceased him. He leaves a daughter (Carmen West) two brothers (Bhikku Kassapa, formerly Dr. Cassius Pereira) and Mr. Merrill Pereira, proctor, and four sisters-Mrs. Edmund Wilson Mrs. James Koelman, Mrs. Lloyd Perira and Mrs. Ivor de Saram.

IN all the courts at Hulftsdorp high tributes were paid to Mr. R. L. Pereira. The Chief Justice Mr. H. H. Basnayake, replying to a reference by the Attorney-General, Mr. Douglas Jansze, said in the course of his address to the Bar: "Whether it was a case at the assizes. a civil trial or a case in appeal, he was a master of his facts. He was a bold and fearless advocate who espoused the cause of his client with zeal, with devotion and with thoroughness. His gifts were and varied. Admirably many efficient at the Bar, rejoicing in a host of friendships, and always full of zest and vigour, he never sought or wanted public adulation. He set and followed his own standards and those standards were high".

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PEOPLE

THE passing of Mr. Tom Cuming, former well known Colombo Broker and all-round sportsman, at his home in Bexhillon-Sea, Sussex, last Friday, after an illness of some months, will be mourned by his friends and admirers in the Island. Mr. Cuming arrived in Ceylon shortly after the end of World War 1 and was with Messrs Carson & Co., for a few years before he joined Messrs E. John, Thomson, White and Co., Ltd. He was with that firm for over twenty-five years before he retired some years ago. He was at Malvern where he distinguished himself as a member of the cricket eleven and before coming to Ceylon he had played in good company for Middlesex amateurs and on one occasion for Middlesex county. It didn't take him long to impress cricketers out here of his undoubted prowess as a first class batsman and for over quarter of a century he proved a prolific rungetter, his stylish cricket greatly appealing to our cricket crowds.

He played for Ceylon in most of the representative matches and on one occasion scored a brilliant century for Ceylon against a strong Indian side. He scored heavily for the C.C.C. and was also one of the best batsmen in the Magpies side of which he was a founder member. He also proved a golfer well above the average and represented the C.H.& F.C. at hockey and Soccer. A founder supporter of this journal he frequently wrote to give us news of the Magpies reunions in England. He was at one time Hon. Secretary of the Magpies. Tom Cuming served in the first World War and won the Distinguished Service Cross. Peace to his memory!

Mr. W. T. Greswell writes:-

"The sad news came to me yesterday in a 'phone message from D. A. Wilson of the death of my dear friend Tommy Cuming of some forty years standing. Ceylon friends who were able to visit him during the last stages of his illness found him pluckily resigned and full of his usual good cheer. I am told his end was peaceful.

"So passes a very great Ceylon personality of infinite charm. Others will no doubt record his great prowess in all forms of sport, cricket, soccer, golf and tennis to name a few of them. But in all true qualities of sportsmanship he excelled and with them all went an unassuming and lovable modesty. As a result he had a host of friends.

"I for one will never forget his readiness to 'lend a hand', his loyalty, his infectious smile and grand sense of humour.

"In every way he was a good companion on Life's road. There can only be a sense of loneliness now for those who were lucky enough to walk beside him and share all he was able to give so freely."

IN the course of his report at the Prize Giving at St. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa, Rev. A. J. Foster, who is acting for Dr. R. L. Hayman, the Headmaster who is

away on furlough, paid the following tribute to the latter:—"As I have carried on much of the work which Dr. Hayman normally does, in the past few months, I have tried to realise what could be the best gift from us all, to make his final years of service less onerous and I believe it would more fruitful. be immediately, a fighting effort to raise a sum of Rs. 15,000/which would dispel the nightmare of unpaid bills. Dr. Hayman might then begin to see ahead of him not only the gradual paying off of a loan but the positive hope of building either a science laboratory or an assembly hall within the next few years. That has been a wish of his for a long time now. It would be a wonderful thing if it could be fulfilled before he finally lays down the reins of office".

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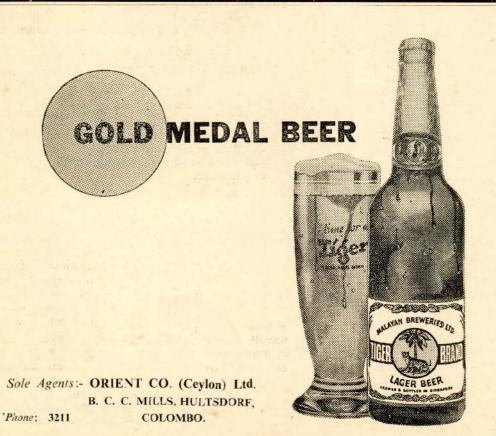
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THE WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER

—By S. V. O. SOMANADER—

THE White-breasted Kingfisher is the most familiar of the seven species of kingfishers found in Ceylon. This is so, because unlike the rest of the species, it does not confine itself to seas, rivers, tanks, ponds, moist paddy-fields and other water-sheets, but is much in evidence even in our gardens and parks. For its food is not limited to fish, but to earthworms, centipedes, beetles, grass-hoppers and other insects, not to mention small lizards and even mice found in our compounds.

THE manner in which this kingfisher captures its prey spectacular. On land, it sits on some prominent branch, watching for the movement of its prey, and, when it is sighted, it dives down diagonally and seizes the victim. In water, where its attention from a suitable perch overhanging the stream is unceasingly directed downwards for any fish that may venture near the surface, it flies forthwith to secure it, first halting dead in its flight and remaining poised over the spot on hovering wings—giving the appearance of a bird standing on its tail, with its long bill pointed intently below.

And then, as soon as the unwary victim strays within striking depth. the bird closes its wings, and, from a height of 20 feet or more, it hurls itself perpendicularly like a thunderbolt, with unerring aim. In so doing, it becomes completely submerged in water, but reappears in a flash with the victim in its beak. If, however, t fails to secure the fish, it immediately rises to a suitable height and hovers again-to drop into the water with a splash like a heavy stone. The prey is then carried to the same, or neighbouring, perch, and is swallowed whole, head first, only after it had been battered to death.

THE white-breasted kingfisher is a beautiful bird. It has chocolate-brown on its head, cheeks and neck; the chin throat and the centre of the breast are white like a "shirt-front"; there is

a brilliant turquoise-blue on its back, rump and tail, besides a good part of its wings; its median wingcoverts are black, while its lesser wing-coverts are chestnut. Add to these a black-red bill, brown iris and coral-red legs, and you will realise what a pretty bird it is!

The call of the white-breasted kingfisher is a loud, chattering scream, uttered from the top of a palm or other tall tree, if not in other high and exposed situations. It often ends in a harsh, detatched



By S. V. O. Somanader Two young white-breasted king-fishers perched on a horizontal twig on top of a bush.

undertone—as though it is mocking somebody—and the sound is not unlike the "pench" of a snipe. It is audible only at short range—for those who have ears to hear! Very often, especially during the mating season, it broadcasts its loud, cackling call from a top tree-branch and this is responded to by its mate, sitting some yards away. Sometimes, it will be noticed that this fine, long, trilling cry is uttered while the bird is in flight.

THE breeding season of this bird extends from January to August, although the great majority seem to breed from March to May. There is probably more than one brood during the year. The nest is the usual hole in the bank of a stream, pond, ditch or road-cutting. And, generally, the nest-hole is within two feet of the top of the bank. The soil in which the nest is excavated is loose and sandy. The nest hole is dug horizontally into the sides of the earth-cutting to a length of about two feet, but it curves downwards into the eggchamber in the manner of a pipe or a hockey-stick. But, more than once, I have found nests placed between bricks within the cracked walls of old and unfrequented build-

T is interesting to watch both male and female joining in the labour of excavation. This is done with their powerful, dagger-shaped bills, and the feet are used to push out the loosened soil. First the birds dig out the earth, and then ejects it by a backward motion of their feet. The eggs, which are generally 3 to 5 in number, are of the usual type-pure-white, round and glossy, like those of all kingfishers—and they become discoloured as incubation proceeds. They are laid on the bare floor in a chamber excavated at the end of the tunnel, which is about three or four inches in diameter. In some instances it has been found that the sides of the egg-chamber contain fish-bones, but one is not sure whether these have been used to line the nest within, or they are just remnants of fish used by the parents to feed their offspring.

The chicks, when hatched, are helpless, being born naked and blind. In due course, they become covered with feathers, each feather being enclosed in a sheath which gives a peculiar appearance; but it falls off rapidly, leaving the feathers exposed when the nestlings become fully grown. Both the parents, whose sexes are alike, share not only in excavating the tunnel, but in incubation and in the feeding of the young. In fact, the birdwatcher can often see them diving into the hollow, alternately, and carrying food in their beaks.

BRITTEN'S PETER GRIMES

--- By JEREMY NOBLE ---

(Fortnightly Review Special)

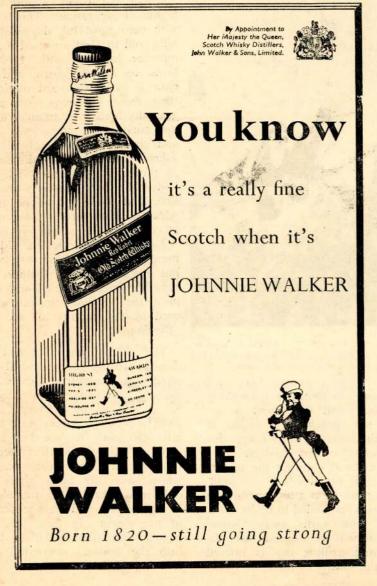
am inclined to think that no opera is ever quite the same again after its first production. When the singers, the conductor and the producer have all learnt the work with the composer himself a feeling of communal creation is generated that is quite unforgettable for anyone who has experienced it—from either side of the footlights. Perhaps this is why the recent Covent Garden production Britten's Peter Grimes under Kubelik, good as it was in many ways, did not seem to measure up to my memories of the original production at Sadler's Wells back in the summer of 1945. But now at last here comes a new recording, made under the composer's own direction that restores my faith both in the work and in my own enduring impressions of it (Decca, Stereo SXL 2150/1/2; Mono LXT 5521/2/3)

THE idea for Peter Grimes came to Britten when he was on his long-delayed return from America during the war. At a time when his love of his native country had been fed by long absence he happened to read George Crabbe's long narrative poem"The Borough", which makes a remarkable attempt to portray the life of

a Suffolk fishing-village (actually Aldeburgh, where Crabbe once lived and Britten now does) towards the end of the eighteenth-century. "The Borough", at least for me, makes pretty dry reading today, but for Britten, who was born not far up the coast at Lowestoft, it meant home. Peter Grimes himself, in the libretto Montagu Slater eventually wrote for Britten, is made to say that he is tied to his native soil "by familiar fields, marsh and sand, ordinary streets, prevailing wind", and I think it is just as true of Britten as of his tormented hero. In fact I have the impression now that I hear the opera again that it was even more his feeling for this geographical setting that inspired him to write the opera than his feeling for the characters, memorably as these are drawn.

A ND they really are memorable. Peter Grimes, the fisherman whose happiness, reason and eventually life itself are destroyed by the streak of brutality that feeds on the mingled pride and self-pity in his nature; Ellen Orford, the widowed schoolmistress whom a hard life has taught to have sympathy for others, and who tries to help Peter to a new life; Balstrode, the wise old sea-captain; Auntie, the tough, good-hearted landlady of "The Boar", and her two bedraggled "nieces", Bob Boles, the ranting Methodist preacher; the evil-minded laudanum-taking gossip, Mrs. Sedley; the lawyer and the rector-all these are defined with extroardinary precision by Slater's libretto and, still more by Britten's music. They stand out from the chorus of Borough fishermen and their womenfolk, who have as much to do in the score as one might expect an English composer to give them-but behind these again there is the ever-present, ever-changing background of the

Each of the orchestral interludes and you may well know some of these from performances in the concert-hall—paints a different mood of that North Sea which, when Crabbe wrote, provided the Borough's inhabitants with their daily bread. And their daily threat too, for over the years the sea gnaws this exposed coastline away piecemeal, and when tide and storm combine it can suddenly flood miles inland, bringing death and disaster to the whole countryside.



- BRITTEN'S PETER GRIMES -

S conductor in these new records Britten himself ensures that this elemental background to the opera is given its full value; I have never heard the interludes better played, though I have heard many performances by orchestras more famous than that of Covent Garden. which Decca have used for this recording. Nor have I ever heard a more chilling performance of the choruses which open and close the work with a picture of the bleak North Sea dawn and the monotony of the Borough's daily life, against which the tragedy of the individual can pass almost unnoticed.

That the individual tragedy has its full impact as far as we are concerned is ensured by Peter Pear's magnificent playing of the title-role. It is possible that fourteen years ago, when he first sang the part, Pears may have been able to dominate the combined forces of the Borough more successfully when Grimes makes his macabre eruption into the rollicking round sung in the village pub, but I simply cannot

imagine any other tenor in the world-who could, above bring off that extroardinary mad scene in the last act where the voice is entirely unaccompanied save for the distant calls of Grime's persecutors and the occasional desolate boom of a fog-horn at sea. This is in the fullest sense of the phrase great singing, and it renews my impatience to have Pear's interpretations of all his roles in Britten's operas captured for posterity on records. Otherwise how we be able to explain to people who never heard them the sublety, the uniqueness, of his Albert Herring or his Captain Vere?

Of the two other main characters Balstrode is also sung by his original creator, Owen Branningan, and I was fascinated to hear how this singer's own style, which I have often found too bluff and hearty in classical music, seems to fit the music and the character like a glove so much so that his final anguished advice to Grimes to take his boat out to sea and sink it is unbearably

moving. As Ellen, the American soprano Claire Watson has the very difficult task of matching up to our memories of Joan Cross in the part, and it would be absurd to blame her for not quite succeeding. As a matter of fact, for much of the time she does. Her aria at the beginning of Act II, when she sits sewing on the beach one sunny Sunday morning and tells Peter's apprentice playing at her feet of the sorrow in both their lives, is beautifully and meaningfully sung. It is only later that her lack of immediate response to words and musical phrases tends to make her sound like any heroine, and not the individual Ellen that Joan Cross created. Nevertheless this is a distinguished performance-fully as good as any other I have heard since that first production. Of the remainder of the cast, almost all of them drawn from the Covent Garden company, it need only be said that they are without exception extroardinarily successful in impressing their individuality on us through the music, and not in spite of it, as so often happens.

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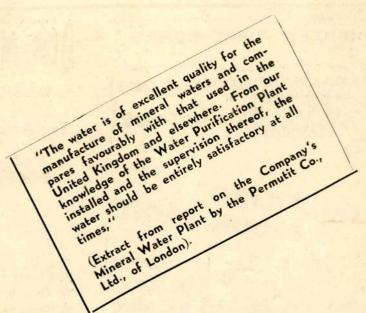
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RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

(Continued from page 13)

in the House of Commons had involved matters which required answers increasingly from the Prime Minister himself.

- (4) Mr. Heath, a senior Minister now attached to the Foreign Office, would answer questions which did not require replies from the Prime Minister.
- (5) It was the Prime Minister's prerogative and responsibility to choose his Ministers and he considered Lord Home was the best man for the job.

SIR Harry Legge-Bourke, a conservative member, in the debate in regard to Mr. Gaitskell's reference to Lord's Home's speech on the use of force at Abadan, referred to the fact that Lord Morrison of Lambeth in his Memoirs stated that he was one of the few members of the Labour Cabinet who was in favour of such a policy.

In spite of all the criticism preceding Lord Home's appointment, the Government had a record majority of 112.

TIME only will show whether Lord Home's appointment turns out to be satisfactory. His stewardship of the office cannot be tested in Parliament. On the other hand it can be argued that his policies are really the Prime Minister's and if the Prime Minister does not answer and explain his Foreign Secretary's policy, Mr. Heath is there to do so. Of course it would be unfortunate if Mr. Heath, who is one of the most powerful figures in the Conservative Party, and Lord Home did not see eye to eye in regard to some aspect of foreign policy. It is all to the good that the Foreign Secretary's exacting tasks should be lightened by being relieved of the responsibility of answering questions in the House of Commons and of the cares of nursing a constituency. At the same time there does seem to be a danger of Lord Home, sandwiched in as he will be between the Prime Minister and Mr. Heath, becoming a mere figurehead.

THE political partition of the Foreign Office is now an accomplished fact. In this connection it is interesting to note that both Churchill Winston and. Mr. Anthony Eden when Prime Minister regarded Lord Salisbury as the most suitable person for the appointment of Foreign Secretary. But they both felt unable to make the appointment by reason of difficulties likely to arise over the responsibility of the Foreign Secretary to account for his administration of his Office to the House of Commons. It is almost superfluous to mention that Lord Salisbury's career had been far more distin-guished than that of Lord Home. Moreover the former was a most



Mr. Duncan Sandys

The new Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations in succession to the Earl of Home.

influential and respected figure in the Conservative Party whereas Lord Home is almost unknown.

IN regard to the objection that there are other senior Ministers with better claims than Lord Home to undertake this most responsible office, one can understand the difficulties with which Mr. Macmillan was confronted. Mr. Butler did not desire the appointment and, if appointed, would have left his reform of various social problems relating to his tenure of the Home

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Office incomplete. The same objection would apply to Mr. Mac-Leod if he was transferred from Colonial to Foreign affairs. It is doubtful whether Mr. Duncan Sandys, though a man of real ability, possesses those qualities which go to make up a really good Foreign Secretary. Mr. Heath's experience of Cabinet rank has not been sufficient to qualify him for appointment. The objection applies to Mr. Maudling, another senior Minister whose tenure of the Board of Trade has been of short duration. It must be hoped that all the argument and criticism levelled against the appointment of Lord Home does not mean that he will start on his new duties at a considerable disadvantage, particularly in regard to his consultations and discussions with foreign Diplomats.

RITICISM and discussion have been so concentrated on the appointment of the new Foreign Secretary that the other appointments seem to have excited small comment. Mr. Selwyn Lloyd should do well at the Treasury. feels, however, that the at Foreign Office whether under Sir Anthony Eden or Mr. Macmillan his policies have been dictated either by his two Prime Ministers or by outside events. One can only hope that, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, he will be able to stand up for himself in policy-making and go counter, if necessary, to the leanings of the Prime Minister, his Treasury Officials and the Bank of England.

In regard to the other appointments, it must be a matter of some doubt whether a forceful character such as Mr. Sandys is best employed in the affairs of the Commonwealth. Mr. Soames should make an excell-Minister of Agriculture. ent Mr. Hare seems rather a colourless character for the difficult and complicated problems with which he will be confronted as Minister of Labour. Both Mr. Thorneycroft and Mr. Enoch Powell should do well respectively as Minister of Aviation and Minister of Health.





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THE FIRST CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY

(By a Special Correspondent)

THE great industries of the world and the livelihood of millions of men sprang from a quietvoiced, courteous and persistent engineer in the heart of England whose factory was in danger of coming to a standstill when the local stream dried up in summer. Matthew Boulton, who died 150 years ago, on August 17, was Birmingham's leading citizen of the eighteenth century. His goods were famous in England and abroad for the excellence of their workmanship and the beauty of their design at a time when neither quality was common.

But his 1,000-man factory—huge for those days when most Birmingham goods were made over a forge by individual families—depended on water-power from a stream. When the water ran low, horses were used to turn wheels to drive the machinery. But this was expensive and clumsy. Boulton dreamed of harnessing the power of steam to drive his factory.

MARVELLOUS INVENTION

A MONG the leading men of science who made up Boulton's circle of friends was one who introduced him to James Watt, then despairing of ever bringing his marvellous invention of a high-pressure steam engine to fruition. When Watt visited Soho, the site of Boulton's works in Birmingham, he found skilled men under brilliant leadership and Boulton himself ready to pour in all his money to make the new steam engine a success. For years they struggled, re-built redesigned, faced disaster and then triumphed. Watt gained a niche with the immortals as one of the world's greatest benefactors and Boulton, at last, gained reward for his foresight in backing the often down-hearted inventor.

It is fair to say that, without Boulton, Watt might well have given up under the weight of his poor health and despairing spirit. With Boulton, Watt was able to give the world undreamed-of prosperity and progress.

ORGANISING GENIUS

THE genius of Boulton in bringing forth this and many other inventions lay in his organising power. His vast factory, built when he was only 34 years old, amazed Birmingham. The idea of bringing men of different trades together under one roof and one management was startling. more startling still was Boulton's tremendous scheme of mass production-though he did not call it by that modern name. Andrew Carnegie, the great industrialist of later years, called Boulton the firstever Captain of Industry, for Boulton thought of standardising parts of his goods so that production should be cheaper and output larger.

Using these methods, he was able to stagger Birmingham by producing 65 of Watt's steam engines in a year. Nowadays, mass production methods produce goods in hundreds of thousands but, before 1780, 65 steam engines a year was prodigious.

Some of the first things Boulton mass-produced were clocks—clocks which were already famous in England with the King and overseas. The Empress of Russia was among his customers.

With the steam engine a reality to drive his factory, Boulton turned to perfecting coins. The coinage of the time was riddled with counterfeit money. Boulton's steam driven presses, devised by himself, revolutionised coin-making in many parts of the world. Boulton coins appeared first in India, followed by a string of countries from Russia to Mexico. In Britain, the State money-making plant, the Mint, was refitted with Boulton machines.

SICK BENEFIT SOCIETY

BOULTON was also exceptional in his attitude to those who worked for him. At Soho he moved among his men as a friend; on special occasions some of them dined with him—a practice adopted by many progressive firms 100 years later—and Soho saw what was Digitized by Noolaham Foundation.

probably the first society run by the workmen and management to help any of their number who fell ill. When Boulton died, some of his friends thought his attitude towards his workmen marked a turning point in industry that would keep him a place in history; some believed his reform of coinage had earned him undying fame; others thought his mass production methods were an incalculable gift to the world. All agreed that his energy, indomitable will and industrial genius brought success to Watt and won Boulton the perpetual thanks of his fellowmen.

Boulton and Watt lie side by side in an English churchyard. On Watt's memorial in London's Westminster Abbey, the epitaph says it is "not to perpetuate a name which must endure while the peaceful arts flourish, but to show that mankind have learned to honour those who best deserve their gratitude". Watt's friend and indispensable partner, Matthew Boulton, is assuredly of that company.

THE marriage took place on August 15, at a 13th-century church in Chelsea of Mr. Nihal Corea, eldest son of Sir Claude and Lady Corea, and Miss Gilian Ondaatje. The bride wore a western dress of heavy white brocade with a short veil. She was given away by her uncle, Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen, Q.C., The bestman was Mr. Chandra Corea, a brother of the bridegroom who works at Lever Bros. in Ceylon. There were 60 guests at the church and at the reception which was held at a Chelsea flat of the bride's mother.

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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

-By "ITINERANT"---

RACING

HIGHLIGHT of the third day's racing of the August meet was the Arab 'St. Leger', the Madras Cup over 1½ miles, which was won in fluent style by Mr. C. Sathanathan's Kubaishan, ably ridden by Mohideen. Kubaishan running for the first time over the distance proved his class and atoned for his defeat in the Roberts' Cup. early leader, then well positioned for the rest of the way until his final 'pounce' at the distance, Kubaishan won decisively from that old champion, Little Babu, who after interference by Kubaishan in the early stages of the race and thus being prevented from opening up his usual lead, came again strongly in the straight but found Kubaishan too good. Little Babu's objection went abegging. Three-time winner of this race Surety 11 went out favourite again but broke down and limped in last.

MR. C. Sathanathan completed a good double when his Balfour Declaration atoned for his failure on the first day by winning the Mordennis Stakes (7 fur.) Newcomer Windrose provided the day's only upset. She shot out of the bunch in the straight to annex the RWITC Cup (6 fur.) to pay out at odds of over 10 to 1. The second division of this race was a handicapper's gift to Deb's Delusion, one of the many favourites to oblige. The others were: Lini in the Uva Handicap (9 fur.), Light Green in the Yatiyantota Plate (9 fur.) and Bussing in the Menik Ganga Stakes (7 fur.)

Jockeys Mohideen and F. L. Smith rode a winning double each while Trainer A. Selvaratnam included a hat-trick in his four winners saddled.

CRICKET

CRICKET abroad has seen the South Africans ending their

tour of England on a hopeful note, salvaging something from the debris of disappointment by their fine showing in the final Test match at the Oval. After a flying start, the South Africans got bogged down once 'pace-merchant' Griffiin was made the guinea pig in the 'throwing' controversy, but by their battle in the last Test they have shown their mettle.

The County Cricket Championship promises a photo finish in a regular 'Battle of the Roses'. Yorkshire, the holders, with a scant lead of 28 average over challengers Lancashire are going to have to go all out if they are to retain the championship.

THE OLYMPICS

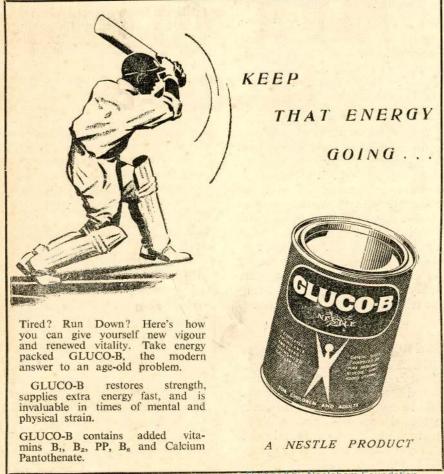
CEYLON'S 5-man Olympic team—Linus Diaz (Marathon), Liyanage and Dharmasiri (Boxing), A. Williams (Swimming) and M. Coomaravel (Cycling) —are now in Rome under the managership of Lt.-Cdr. Darley Ingleton.

THE PIONEER CUP

THE Pioneer Cup Hockey final will be between Andriez Shield holders, the Havelocks, and the Tamils. The former beat the B.R.C. in their replay, but will go out underdogs in the finals, a C.H.A. ruling preventing their outstation players from participating.

CEYLON KENNEL CLUB SHOW

IVOR Baptiste, the well-known painter, who left his sick bed to attend the Ceylon Kennel Club's 73rd annual show at the Racecourse, could not have been happier over the results. His young countrybred Alsatian bitch, Briena Bien of Iverse, swept the board beating the Prime Minister's imported Greyhound, Champion Treetops Bobby Micawber, for the coveted prize of best exhibit in the show for the second time in succession, despite the fact that the greyhound was in excellent condition and showed splendidly. Mr. Baptiste's bitch also won the prizes for the best bitch at the show; the best exhibit born and bred in Ceylon: the best country bred exhibit: the best country bred exhibit bred by the owner: the best non sporting exhibit: the best conditioned exhibit in the show:



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the best Alsatian, and the best Alsatian exhibit. The Prime Minister's entries also won a number of sectional prizes.

An encouraging feature was that there were more imported dogs on show and also an increase in the number of litters on show. Of course, with the local canine world divided into two camps it was not surprising that in certain breeds there were only a very few exhibits and that standards were low.

ATHLETICS

SCHOOLGIRL Christine Theaker, daughter of an English tax man now working in Ceylon, has made her presence felt in Ceylon athletics. Miss Theaker, a former British junior Champion, running in the Junior A.A.A. meet set a new Ceylon record in the 200 metres, a time which led the all-comers' mark as well. In the 100 metres she set a new junior mark as well.

Virtually unopposed in these championships, more Ceylon records should fall to her in time when she meets sterner opposition.

CEYLON BASKET BALL NATION-ALS

Two unbeaten teams- Western Province and Public Schools met in the tenth match of the series in the Sarangapany Challenge Cup for the National Championship played for the first time this year and the more experienced team, the Western Province, as generally expected, won after a rousing game by the narrow margin of three points — 45 to 42. The taller, fitter School's five came on with a rush in the second half after being down

20-12 at half time and took their score to 22 in the first five minutes, but later the Western Province increased their lead to 38-30 and eventually won 45-42. Dr. H. S. R. Goonewardene, Deputy Director of Education, presented the Challenge Cup and certificates to the winners.

QUEEN'S PRIZE AT BISLEY

SERGEANT Gunner Westling, of Vacouver, British Colombia won the Queen's Prize at the National Rifle Association centenary meeting at Bisley with a score of 280—only 20 under the highest possible. Formally of the Seaforth Highlanders, Canada, 52-year-old Sergeant Westling last shot at Bisley six years ago and this meeting was only his second visit.

H.G.C. LIFE MEMBERS' CUP

C. P. G. Abeywardene won the Havelock Golf Club Life Members' Cup for the second time

in three years when he defeated C. D. Dias Bandaranaike, in the final on Friday, 5th August, by 3 up and 1-a victory which was well deserved. Abeywardene had a handicap of 13 and his opponent 10, and accordingly the former was in receipt of two strokes. In the first round Abeywardene went out in 40, his score including two birdies at the 8th and 9th. This left him 2 up at the turn. Bandaranaike then came into the picture with a sensational eagle at the 10th and squared the match at the 12th. With the help of his stroke Abeywardene won the 13th, but lost the next to be all square again. The rest of the match was very tame both players failing to show the form they did n the earlier stages.

Mr. W. P. Fernando, the Club Captain refereed and Mr. H. C. Christoffelsz, a Life Member, called upon Mrs. L. S. B. Perera, daughter of the late Dr. Fred de Fonseka, another Life Member, to present the Trophy.



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A WOMAN'S DIARY

—By "BETA"——

ORE and more women, these Moke and more finding time to develop interesting and useful hobbies. We read constantly in the papers someone who has discovered a new way to fill in those odd idle moments which seem to occur, more or less, in most of our lives. One person discovers in herself a flair for making distinctive hats and headdresses, another produces jewellery, another cakes and cake structures of various original forms, while yet another produces delicately lovely ornaments made out of shells, feathers, grasses etc. The variety and the ingenuity which women bring to bear on their hobbies seems endless. And one begins to wonder whether the modern woman is not rather more capable than were her sisters of a couple of generations back.

OF course, modern women have two important points very much in their favour. The first one is, they have very much more spare time to devote to any hobby which attracts them. Families today, for one thing, are smaller especially among more educated people. Where, about fifty or sixty years back, families of ten or twelve were looked upon as normal, today families of five are looked upon as large. Women no longer find all their time and energy taken up on looking after children of all ages. or tending to the needs of their lords and masters. Housekeeping, too, tends to be simpler-meals are not so elaborate, for instance, nor is it now considered "not done" to get food in from caterers either for an occasion or as a regular thing.

THE second point is, it is no longer considered vaguely shameful for a woman to do work for money. It is perhaps difficult for us to really appreciate this point of view, but it was never the less a very reflection on the honour and capabilities of a man, be he a husband or a father, who was unable to keep his wife or daughter, so that she was compelled to do what was described. as "payment work". It was usually a widow or an old maid who used to be described as "a gentlewoman in reduced circumstances" who was reduced to the expedient of earning her own living. Today we are so used to earning and helping in the upkeep of the home that it seems the natural thing to do to turn our hobbies to some use!

VET another point which favours the modern miss is the ease with which, through the medium of the daily press, etc, one can become "known" for doing something well. Just one paragraph, and everyone will know that Mrs. soand-so is the person to go to if you want your hair done in the latest style, or that Miss who is an absolute marvel if you want any painting done on your gowns. In the past, even if a person did do exquisite embroidery, these would only be a limited circle who would be aware of the fact, so that there wasn't much chance of big profits. There is also the modern craze for being in the swim, so that, if one bride goes to a particular person for something or other, fifty others will follow suit, or, just because "everything" is going to some specialist, "everybody else" must do the same.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

(Continued from page 17)

have, in the laws of the land, sufficiently strong instruments to teach the offender a lesson. The Government of Ceylon seem to labour under the impression that the support given to one party by all the papers is an outrage on democracy.

The Statesman (Calcutta and Delhi): The Ceylon Government's apparent intention is to set up public corporations with widely distributed share capital, limited in individual holdings. By such means, it is suggested the Island's press will become democratic, but will it? Some board of directors will have to be appointed by it even if it thereafter interferes little in policy, and on such boards the preponderant influence will surely be the governments of the day?

The Mail (Madras): It is ironical that this characteristically authoritarian move should have been undertaken by an administration which otherwise is in the ecstasies of democracy.



Wearing her uniform as Chief Ranger of the Commonwealth, H.
R. H. Princess Margaret had a beaming smile for young Brownies
at a Girl Guides Rally at Newbury, Berkshire recently, one of the
celebrations in connection with the Jubilee of the Guide movement.

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FREEDOM FROM NOISE

By ERNEST ATKINSON ———

(Fortnightly Review Special)

R UDYARD Kipling, writing half a century ago, imagined a world government which kept order by the threat and, occasionally, the use of intolerable noise. Where any city tried to rebel the Aerial Board of Control sent an aircraft over it with a powerful sound projector that very quickly had the undisciplined in whimpering obedience, pleading for silence.

Compared with nuclear deterrents and counter-deterrents with which, still lacking a world government, we are threatened today, this was an imagined deterrent of comparative benevolence.

But what Kipling did not foresee was that the vehicle for delivering his acoustic deterrent, the aeroplane, would itself come to make so formidable a noise as to be one of the major problems of the day.

For instance, sober citizens, whose homes are in the neighbour-hood of London airport have in recent months taken to action that might well in some countries be called rebellious.

EARLY MORNING CALLS

THEY have despaired of getting the noise made especially by modern jet aircraft reduced in response to complaints through They normal channels. fore went in groups, orderly enough indeed, to call at every early and inconvenient hours of the morning on such persons as the Minister of Aviation and the Chairman of British Overseas Airways to make their protests to them in person and to say courteously that, much as they regretted disturbing these dignitaries' slumbers, their own slumbers were nightly disturbed and they felt that direct action was at last needed.

As sober citizens they gave up this kind of demonstration before it became too much of a nuisance. But they had made their point and some useful antinoise propaganda with it.

Meanwhile, the Government, stimulated, no doubt, by the lively—

and occasionally noisy—attention the House of Commons has given to the subject in recent months and years, as well as by its own sense of responsibility, has appointed a committee to look at the whole problem of noise.

NO SMALL TASK

THIS committee works under the chairmanship of a Fellow of the Royal Society, Mr. Alan Herries Wilson, managing director in charge of research and development of Courtaulds Ltd., and a foremost authority on metals and on atomic physics. It is to examine the nature, sources and effects of noise on efficiency, health and a civilised life and is to advise on what further measures can be taken to mitigate it.

Clearly, this is no small task. A private Member of Parliament, introducing a Noise Abatement Bill, referred to no fewer than 76 different sources of noise. Oddly enough, this Bill, which has the Government's blessing and has had its second reading, attempts to deal with most annoying noises but not with the noises of aircraft. That did not prevent M.P's. using the occasion to grumble very pertinently about them as well, nor prevent the Minister from discussing the grumbles in his reply.

Some of the last words spoken in the House of Commons before the Whitsun adjournment were on this topic. Members of Parliament representing constituencies most subject to aircraft noises by day and by night argued that, until a solution was found to the noise problem, jet airliners should not be allowed to use London airport between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.; that responsibility for research into the elimination of noise lay with aircraft manufacturers, airline operators and the Minister of Aviation; that more Government pressure to speed up this research was needed; that top technicians and scientists should concentrate on this problem rather than on greater speed; and that the Minister should try to secure international co-operation on noise reby Noolaham Foundation.

PUBLIC VIEW

FOR the Ministry of Aviation, the Parliamentary Secretary—who had just heard a Member say that 50,000 families round London airport were living in Dante's Inferno—was realistic in saying that aircraft noise, at any rate in the present state of knowledge, could not be eliminated.

But he made it clear to all concerned that it was incumbent upon them to tackle this problem. And that is a view which is widely held among the population at large.

The goal of silence must be pursued with all the resources which science can bring to bear. Freedom from noise is not the least valuable or important of human rights.

Our corespondent "BETA" writes:

THERE was an announcement in the newspapers recently that the pupils of a leading girls school in Colombo had collected the money to buy a hand propelled carriage for a cripple, and had presented it to a person who needed it. This is the sort of example which should be much more widely followed. A spirit of service to those in need, and sympathy which does not stop at being a mere emotion, but looks round and finds practical way of helping those handicapped or unable to help themselves, is fostered in this way, and children are shown the joy of service. Collections for funds are all very well in their way, and must be done, of course, but when a child actually sees the person who is benefitted by the money given it brings home the conditions under which the handicapped labour, better than an impersonal fund can do. There are so many who need help, and I am sure many other schools will follow this good example.

Ceylon Fortnightly Review

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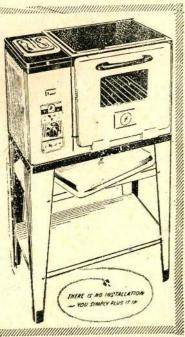


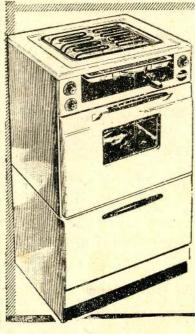


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