

The  
**Ceylon Fortnightly Review**

Christmas Number

Vol. XIII

PRICE 75 Cts.

Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper.

9th December, 1960.

No. 16.

**FLY BY B.O.A.C AND QANTAS**

**LIPTON'S**  
means  
**GOOD TEA**

22

**COURVOISIER  
COGNAC**

The Brandy of Napoleon

**BRODIE & CO., LTD.**

THE WINE HOUSE

19, UPPER CHATHAM STREET, COLOMBO I.

**AITKEN SPENCE**  
AGENTS FOR  
ALL AIRLINES



A MODERN COMPANY WITH MODERN POLICIES  
for  
ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

**THE CEYLON INSURANCE CO., LTD.**  
69, QUEEN STREET, COLOMBO.

Fine Old Scotch Whisky...

**JOHNNIE  
WALKER**

Born 1820—still going strong



JOHN WALKER & SONS, LTD. SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS  
KILMARNOCK, SCOTLAND



**TYRES**

for more Reliability  
Safety — Comfort  
Mileage.

Sole Agents  
**FREUDENBERG  
& CO. (Ceylon) LTD**

**Continental**







The best secretary



in the home...



...or when travelling



The most compact of lightweight portables (3 lbs, including cover), appreciated by over a million users. The essential features of an office machine: standard keyboard, carriage, platen, ribbon, writing and touch. Remarkable performance. Standard and de-luxe executions.

for typing perfection

own a

**HERMES**

for further particulars, please apply to

**HAYLEYS LIMITED**

400 DEANS ROAD COLOMBO





BRIDE OF THE YEAR



# PUT AN END TO RESTLESS NIGHTS....

There is no need for you to toss restlessly in bed and miss hours of sleep because of irritating insect pests in your room. You can sleep in peace when you use SHELLTOX with Dieldrin. SHELLTOX kills bugs, flies, mosquitoes and cockroaches. Spray SHELLTOX and the air will clear like magic. SHELLTOX is effective and will not stain fabrics.



# Shelltox

With DIELDRIN



## A Christmas Message

*From The Rt. Rev. A. R. Graham-Campbell,  
Bishop of Colombo*

IT is Christmas time again. Once again Christian folk will meet together to sing the Christmas hymns, to listen to the Christmas story, the old, old story of how the Son of God was born into the world at Bethlehem to show us what the love of God is like. We must ever bow our heads in awe and wonder at the mystery of Christmas; but however profound the mystery may be, Christmas means just this. It is love giving itself.

*Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love Divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and Angels gave the sign.*

THE greatest act of self-giving that the world has ever seen took place at Bethlehem. God gives Himself to men that men may give themselves to Him, and by taking our human nature upon Himself makes possible the re-fashioning of that nature, marred as it is and spoilt by selfishness and sin, bringing light into a world of darkness and peace into a world of strife.

*Light came down and beheld darkness;  
"Thither will I go," said Light.  
Peace looked down and beheld war;  
"Thither will I go," said Peace.  
Love looked down and beheld hatred;  
"Thither will I go," said Love.  
So came Light and shone,  
So came Peace and gave rest,  
So came Love and gave Light.*

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

MAY the Christ Child so dwell in our hearts this Christmas that they may be filled with His light and love and peace, that so our Christmas may be for us and for our friends a Happy Christmas indeed.





Compliments of  
the season from

**B·O·A·C**

BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION





Sir Henry Moore, G.C.M.G.

## Christmas Greetings

— From SIR HENRY MOORE —  
(Ceylon's First Governor-General)

"I send readers of the **Ceylon Fortnightly Review** my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, and the **Fortnightly Review** all the best for its continued prosperity in the coming year, and express the hope that it will not depart from its established policy of presenting a factual and balanced summary of contemporary events in Ceylon."

## CHRISTMAS MUSINGS

— BY THE EDITOR —

ONCE more this most joyful festival of the Christian year has come with its centuries-old customs and traditions. I have heard many persons assert that Easter is the greatest Christian festival because the Resurrection is the corner-stone of the Christian faith. Granted. But Christmas is easily the more popular. In fact, some think it is too popular, that it is in danger of being commercialised. Let us not, however, be unduly depressed by such fears. As long as Christmas conveys to men on earth its message of peace and goodwill, its heart may be sound.

\* \* \*

THE best description of the spirit of Christmas I heard some years ago from the preacher at a Christmas Eve Carol service. It was brief and vivid and stuck in my memory. He said that Christmas is the time to "sit on the floor and play with Hornby trains". Christmas makes the old feel young again. The burden of the years rolls off their shoulders and the old familiar carols and Christmas customs make them think of their happy childhood.

THIS brings us to the next point. Christmas is first and foremost a children's festival. The star actor, as it were, in the first drama of Christmas at Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago was a child—born in a stable. Let us, therefore, do all we can to make the little ones happy, not forgetting the children of the poor, and always remembering that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

There should be no trace of the mean spirit of Scrooge to mar the joyful season. Let Scrooge be an outcast of the island. At least for this time of the year. Let us forget to count too carefully the cost of living or to dwell overmuch on matters like the housing shortage. Christmas comes but once a year and we should make the best use of the opportunity it brings to spread cheer into the lives of our fellow beings. Besides the poor we should remember "the underdogs" who have served us faithfully throughout the year. In the hurry and bustle of living we tend to regard them for most of the year as automatons. The giving of "santhosums" to them is a good custom

which should be maintained.  
Digitized by Noolaham Foundation.  
noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

"Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days; that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the sailor and the traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fireside and his quiet home"!

\* \* \*

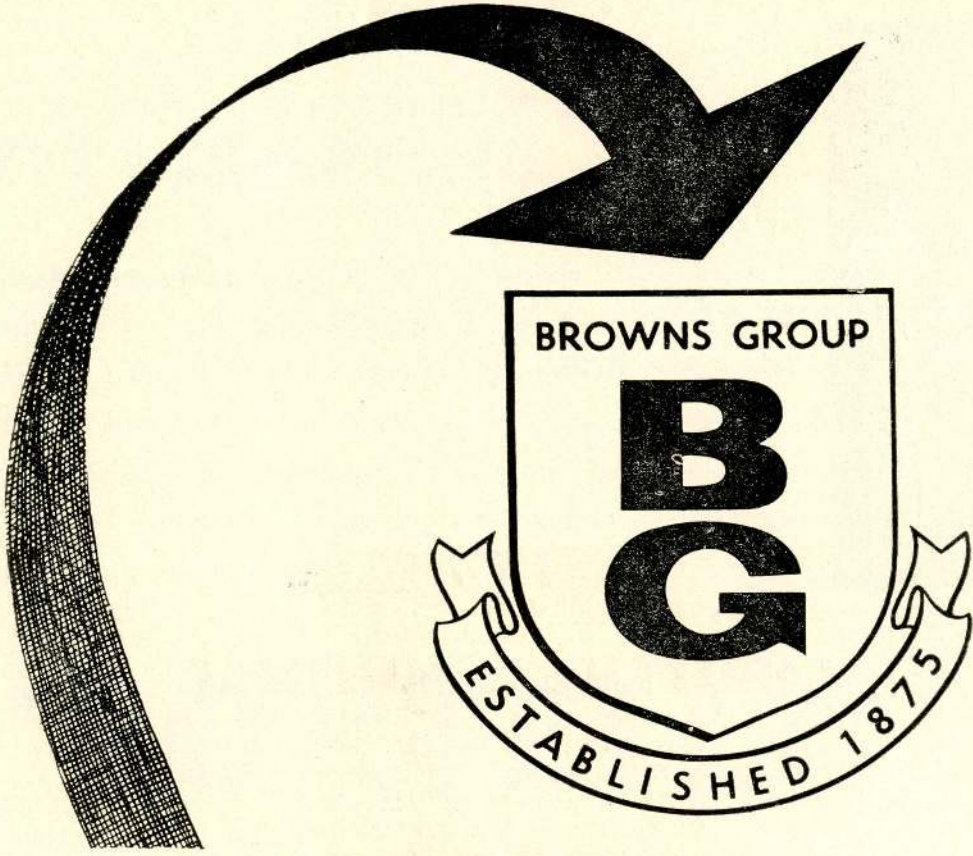
What makes the world go mad at Christmastide? The question was asked years ago, and there is some reason in the question. The old behave like children, the selfish become generous, the staid and prim are boisterous, the slaves to work fling work aside, the rich are drawn to the poor. The whole social world is topsy-turvy—just for Christmastide. The world seems to go mad. What makes it to do so? And to the question the answer returned was this—It is not that the world goes mad at Christmastide, but that the world is really mad and once a year becomes sane, at Christmastide. It is sober truth and deserves thinking out.

\* \* \*

THE **Ceylon Fortnightly Review** takes this opportunity to wish all its readers, contributors and advertisers here in Ceylon and abroad.

A Happy Christmas





*For Quality. Integrity & Service  
A Name Ceylon has learned to Trust*

# **BROWN & CO. LTD.**

- Engineering and Engineering Supplies
- Tractors and Agricultural Machinery
- Electrical Contracting and Supplies
- Lorries, Cars and Motor Cycles
- Estate Supplies

COLOMBO · NAWALAPITIYA · HATTON



# STRIKING A BALANCE

By SIR JOHN HOWARD, Q.C.

(Ceylon's former Chief Justice)

AS the years advance there is no doubt that one becomes more and more conscious of the passage of time. The approach of Christmas reminds me that ten years ago I wrote an article for the *Ceylon Fortnightly Review Christmas Number* in which I compared my life in England with what it had been in Ceylon. I had then been living in our present house for just over a year. Many comforts such as those supplied by a large staff of domestic servants were foregone. But I think I made it plain that both my wife and myself were reconciled to life under these much changed conditions.

We did not miss the succession of lunch, dinner and cocktail parties—so large a feature of our life in Ceylon and particularly so at Christmastide. It was only right and proper that there should be a slowing down on the tempo of social activity.

Christmas in the last ten years has, however, still been a family gathering. We have been fortunate that never once have we spent it in our own home without some other members of the family being present. This year it will be the same.

\* \* \*

BUT in the future it may not be so easy to get together a family gathering. Our children have now houses of their own and their families are growing up and looking for Christmas festivities we are unable to supply. Moreover, we are living at considerable distances from each other.

Our present house was purchased with two main objects in view. It had to be large enough to provide a home for two of our grand-children when their parents were abroad, together with room for the latter when they were on leave in this country. This accommodation is no longer required. Moreover, at our advanced age the garden is too large for us to cope with.

This area was also selected for our home because it was essential that I should be located within easy reach of London, where such work

as I was hoping to secure after retirement was likely to be found. For the last two years, however, I have had no work. So there is no longer any necessity to live in a dormitory town and make two or three journeys every week to London.

\* \* \*

OUR present house has served us well and in the past ten years provided us with the home we wanted. But in these changed circumstances we have come to the con-



Sir John Howard, Q.C.

clusion it is time to move into quarters which, at our age, will be more easy to manage. We think that a flat located near one of our children and further from London will be the best suited to our needs.

For my wife the loss of her garden will not be easy to bear, but she realises that in the interests of health it is the only solution. She hopes to find in window boxes some consolation for her loss.

For myself it has been no easy matter to accept the fact that my working days are over. For a lawyer or a judge there is really nothing to take the place of professional activities. There must inevitably be some mental stagnation, however wide one's interests.

Increased physical exertion on the golf course or in the garden is no substitute. And unfortunately my golf is now limited to a few holes once or twice a week.

\* \* \*

I have identified my interest in politics and current affairs. But of course this interest is confined to reading more newspapers. I have found considerable solace in philately, which now occupies many leisure hours. No doubt many readers of this journal will not regard the collection of "coloured pieces of paper" as a proper occupation or hobby for a retired judge and will wonder if second childhood has indeed arrived. When we move from here I hope I shall find bridge more readily available. At present it entails a journey to London.

It is not my intention to give the impression that I am dissatisfied or in any way grumbling at my lot. I feel I have been extremely fortunate in every way and, at my age, in particular to enjoy such good health. But I think it is essential that, having reached such an age, one should be conscious of its limitations.

\* \* \*

I often wonder what it would be like to be still living in Ceylon. I am afraid I should find it a matter of some difficulty to adjust myself to the constant communal, racial and economic trouble which have afflicted this delightful island in the last few years. Nor can I think of any other country that would provide me with the contentment and happiness that I desire.

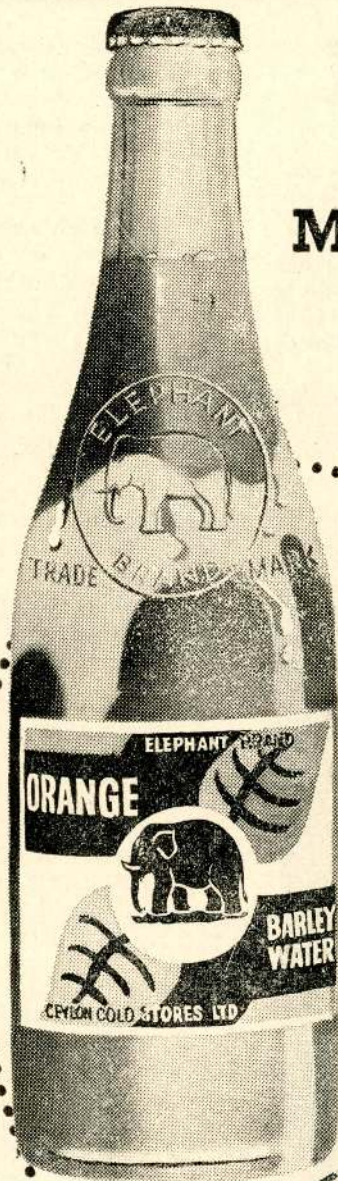
No doubt a country with a more equable climate could be found. And one also which provided more of those amenities and social activities to which, after thirty years abroad, I had become accustomed. In some parts of this country there are nests of retired Ceylon people. And there, no doubt, a kind of life reminiscent of Ceylon is carried on.

There are, however, very few in this part of Surrey, and, I regret to say, I see very little of old Ceylon friends. But life abroad spent in a variety of countries has taught me the art of making new friends as one moves from place to place. At the same time this process does not become easier with advancing age.

(Continued on page 31)



Made for each other



**ELEPHANT HOUSE**  
**Cakes and**  
**Ice-Cold**  
**ELEPHANT BRAND**  
**MINERAL WATERS**



CEYLON COLD STORES, LTD., Colombo . Kandy . Trincomalee.



# THE DUKE AND THE KUMARIHAMY

By H. A. J. HULUGALLE

WHO was the most beautiful woman in Ceylon ninety years ago? I do not suppose there is now anyone who can answer that question from personal experience. But why ninety, and not a hundred years? The reason is that we have a glowing account, by a professional writer, of a young lady who must have been among the most beautiful women in Ceylon in the year 1870.

\* \* \*

THE verdict was not the outcome of a mannequin parade or of a beauty contest. The occasion was a more solemn one. The judges were not ordinary people like you and me. One at least was an English prince of royal blood, no less than the second son of the great Queen Victoria herself. I refer to the Duke of Edinburgh, who spent nearly six weeks in Ceylon at the hottest time of the year.

\* \* \*

THE Duke would have passed on the word about the beautiful women of Ceylon to his brother the Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward VII. The Prince of Wales came to Ceylon in 1875, and spent a week in the Island. It was like him to arrive at the best time of the year. He was both shrewd and comfort-loving.

The Legislative Council voted a sum of fifty thousand rupees for the week's hospitality and rejoicings. The Prince of Wales went to Ruwella to shoot elephants, and killed two outright. There would have been the usual parties, and if he met Iddamalgoda Kumarihamy, she would have been even more beautiful in 1875 than she was when his brother met her five years earlier.

\* \* \*

BROWSING in a London bookshop recently, I came across a copy of the official description of the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh by John Capper, in a well-produced volume with a large number of coloured plates technically described as chrome-lithographs. Capper accompanied the Royal party as Correspondent of "The Times", London.

Elephant kraals were the main entertainments provided for the Duke of Edinburgh and party,

although Capper describes a fabulous evening party at Alfred House, the home of the de Soysa family, whom the writer calls "the Rothschilds of Ceylon."

The Duke's principal companion of the tour was Lord Charles Beresford, who, as a young naval officer, must have been quite a blade. During the kraal he mounted an elephant and "divested of his coat and waistcoat, with a silk handkerchief round his head and spear in hand, resolved to share the dangers of the fray."

Two elephant kraals were arranged for the Duke, one at Kurunegala and the other at Labugama,



Mr. H. A. J. Hulugalle

which is today the source of the Colombo water supply. It is a matter of personal interest to me that Capper should record that the kraal at Kurunegala was organised by my own great great grand-father, who, he says, "owned one of the finest trained elephants employed on this occasion."

\* \* \*

BUT it is the visitor to the Labugama kraal who should claim our interest. John Capper writes: "Among the many visitors present at this kraal, and favoured with the privilege of admission to the Royal Stand, was a most interesting group—an aged Kandyan woman of the better class, the wife of Iddamalgoda, a

chief of the Saffragam of Ratnapura district, and principal director of the kraal arrangements, female attendants and a punkah-bearer, come to see the kraal somewhat, and the Prince a good deal.

"Miss Iddamalgoda is a splendidly-formed classical beauty, and an heiress into the bargain; she was just entering upon the ripening development of oriental eighteen; her limbs might have formed studies for a sculptor; her features would have charmed Coreggio; her rich black glossy hair, dark as midnight, falling in luxuriant clusters over her bare shoulders, and looped up here and there with threads of gold, studded with jewels, might well have been the envy of any queen.

"This jungle beauty, though brought up far removed from the world and its gaieties, was self-possessed and as much at her ease, when addressed by His Royal Highness, as though accustomed to courtly society from early youth.

"Miss Iddamalgoda is believed to have received no instruction in the English language, but we could not help observing a quiet smile steal over fine features whilst the Prince conversed by her side with one of his suite, as though she had comprehended somewhat of his remarks.

"There was, however, ordinarily a settled melancholy on her face, and we learned afterwards the cause: the poor girl was engaged, against her will, to be married to an ugly old Kandyan chief!

"Have the days of chivalry passed so completely away, that there is no young knight to rescue this fair damsel from the clutches of the indigenous ogre?"

\* \* \*

IDDAMALGODA'S grand children are among the most good looking and charming people one can meet, and I am sure she was rescued. Or it may be that Capper, so impressed by her beauty, would have considered any suitor who was not equally handsome "an indigenous ogre". One can suppose that a judge would have given heavy damages if a libel action was brought

Continued on page 31





● CHALLEN

*Fully Tropicalised*

SPECIALLY BUILT TO CAREFUL  
SPECIFICATIONS TO SUIT THE  
CLIMATE OF CEYLON

SOLE CEYLON AGENTS

**BOTTICELLI**

(Proprietors: THE CEYLON FURNISHING CO., LTD.)

459, DARLEY BUILDINGS, UNION PLACE,  
COLOMBO.

Phone : 9740





A CHILD STUDY

John & Co.



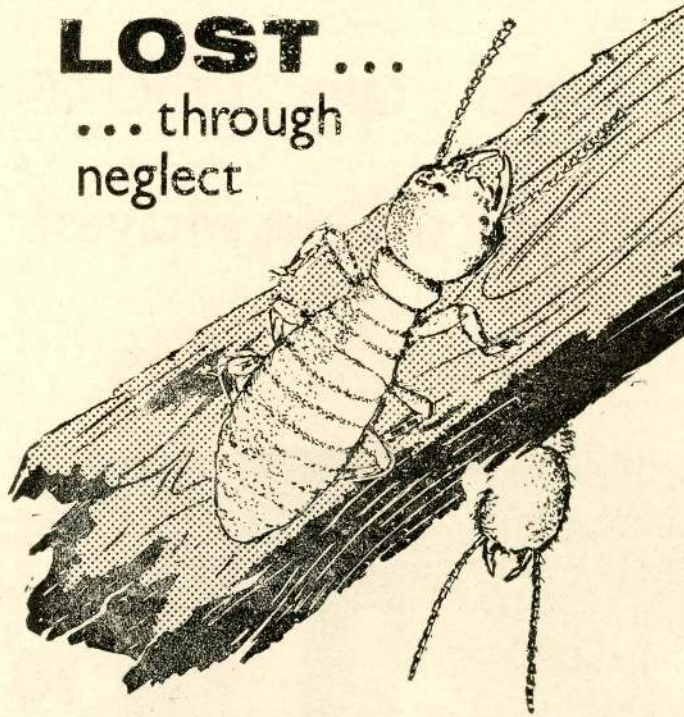


A PORTRAIT STUDY

John & Co.



**LOST...**  
... through  
neglect

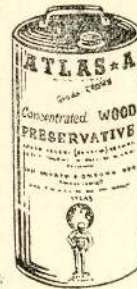


but **ATLAS \* A**  
*WOOD PRESERVATIVE*  
will give you:

Permanent protection from  
all enemies of timber – white  
ants, borers, rot and fungi.

No unpleasant odour.

Four gallons ready to use  
from every one gallon tin.



buy **ATLAS \* A** today

SHAW WALLACE & HEDGES LIMITED  
COLOMBO 3. TELEPHONE: 78271.

SE C/WH-WP-725



# FALKS

AVAILABLE FOR  
IMMEDIATE —  
— DELIVERY

## WICKLESS OIL COOKERS

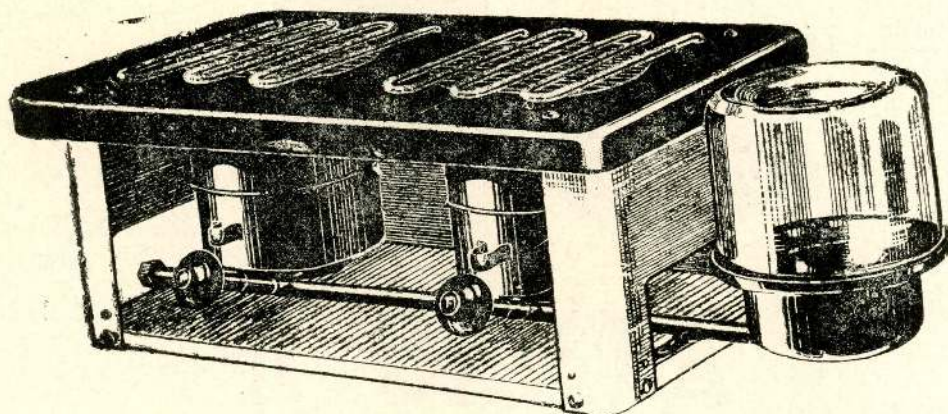
have all the advantages!

Smooth rounded corners  
for easy cleaning.

Heavy gauge Kettle, rests,  
removable for cleaning,  
suitable for large and small  
pans.

Extra wide 14 in. Cooking  
Platform pressed from a  
single sheet of metal.

Heavy glass oil container  
3 1/2 pint capacity.



Rs. 75/-

Removable cap to facilitate  
cleaning of supply pipe.

Regulating valve gives any  
desired flame from simmer  
to boil.

Heavy gauge steel chimney  
with two perforated tubes  
for perfect combustion and  
great heat.

Automatic supply valve  
ensures correct flow of oil.

SPARE LEGS SUPPLIED IF REQUIRED TO CONVERT TABLE TO FLOOR MODEL

MANUFACTURED BY FALK STADELMANN & COMPANY, LONDON

*We recommend "Shell Sun" Kerosene Oil for all "Falks" Cookers*

SOLE AGENTS FOR CEYLON—TRADE ENQUIRIES INVITED

*Write For Full Details*

The Ironmongers and  
Estate Suppliers of  
Ceylon

# HUNTERS

P. O. Box 214

Telephone: 5297-9

HUNTER & COMPANY LTD.



# CHRISTMAS—THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

— BY REV. CANON IVAN COREA —

CHILD faces peep at us out of the pages of the Gospel, starry-eyed children gaze at us out of the Christmas story; and childish voices raise their hearts in song, as children's praises hymn the Children's King.

And why? Here is the answer: "For unto us a Child is given, unto us a Son is born"—thus fulfilling the age-old prophecy:

"and a little child shall lead them .....

\* \* \*

CHRISTMAS is indeed the Children's Festival. It is the time for Christmas Carols, Christmas joys and Christmas toys, all making glad the hearts of children. At Christmas, the whole world sings, in vibrant melody.

Veiled in flesh the God-head see  
Hail the Incarnate Deity!

But in many ancient books of Sacred Song, this verse is rendered:

Wrapped in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the Incarnate Deity!

\* \* \*

IT is the language of the Christmas present, the lovingly wrapped gift. The child's eyes sparkle as he or she catches a glimpse of the present through the gaily-coloured paper wrapping. Likewise human eyes gazed entranced as they saw the glory of Jesus through the nest of His baby clothes.

And so have men and women throughout the world—God's little children—thrilled to the knowledge of the love of the Child Jesus.

He was God's Christmas present to us—the sweetest, most beautiful gift that Heaven could bestow upon earth—the Gift of the Child.

\* \* \*

WHAT a wonderful thing it is that the King of Kings should be born as an Infant and be cradled in the arms of a human mother! So, in the midst of all our Yuletide revels, Christmas trees and presents, and the hampers that we give to the poor, let us always

remember the supreme fact of Christmas—that "God so loved.. that He gave..His Son"... King Baby!

Little Jesus, wast Thou shy?  
And once a little boy like I?

So asks a wondering child, as the beauty of the Nativity begins to dawn upon his untutored mind—

There is something for a child like me

In this blest season of the year,



Rev. Canon Ivan Corea

Something God would have me see,

Something that my heart should hear".

Yes, indeed, for Christmas speaks directly to the heart and soul of the child as no other season does.

\* \* \*

HERE is a Christmas story which might make more real to us the wondrous birth of the little Lord Jesus.

There was a noise and bustle in and about the inn that stood on the outskirts of Bethlehem. Amos, the son of the innkeeper, stood at

the doorway, watching the approaching crowd. Amos wished to help his father—to fill the lamps with oil, or to hold the horses' heads; but the innkeeper thought he was too young. Soon every room was filled, but still people were asking for shelter.

At last Amos heard his father calling "Go and sweep the stable, my son", he said, "for it may be needed". Reluctantly the young lad went, for he wished he had been allowed to do the more important things, such as leading the horses to the water, for was he not tall and strong, and could run faster than his friend Reuben? Sweeping, he thought, was a task for girls.

But he was a good lad; so he did his work thoroughly till the stable was neat and clean. He brought corn for the great white ox that served his father in the fields, and an armful of hay for the nimble-footed donkey that carried his mother once a month to Bethlehem, sprinkled grain for his white doves, and finally dusted the manger that belonged to his own pet lamb, and filled it with fragrant hay. Then he went to sleep.

\* \* \*

SUDDENLY, at midnight, he awoke. Around him shone a great light. It seemed brightest above the stable, so he slipped in through the door. The great white ox and the small donkey were watching curiously. In the shadows, a white dove cooed softly. There stood a stranger with grave yet happy face. A young woman with joy in her eyes was kneeling beside the manger that belonged to Amos' pet lamb. On the soft, sweet hay lay a tiny baby!

Amos crept up to his father. "Who is it?" he whispered... "The Saviour, which is Christ the Lord, my son," was the answer. "His name is Jesus".

The Baby, nestling in the small manger, slept peacefully. Amos watched, and his heart became warm within him. He had thought that there was no fit service for him to do. But oh, how glad he was now that he had swept the stable for the Baby King!

"O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray,  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today."



**AND NOW!**



When your baby is three to four months old he *needs* the new Cow & Gate Cereal Food.

- \* It is three cereals and milk
- \* It is fortified with essential vitamins
- \* It is rich in body building proteins

Specially packed to keep fresh indefinitely, and with a plastic cap for re-closure, this smooth, easily mixed Cereal Food will give your baby the essential nourishment so vital to his growing needs.

Always ask for COW & GATE Cereal Food!

**COW & GATE**  
*The* FOOD of ROYAL BABIES



## CHRISTMAS IN OTHER LANDS

— BY L. J. SOERTSZ —

AS a wandering journalist, who has pitched his nomadic tent in many lands, I have spent a number of Christmases in alien countries among very friendly people, and my experiences of those happy occasions still remain clearly etched in my memory. But, constricted as I am by the space factor, I am able to recount here only a few of those pleasant experiences.

The first World War had just ended when I strayed into Baghdad, the City of Caliphs, which had been cleared of the Turks by an expedition led by the British. The city still stood unscathed on the banks of the Tigris, lording it over the land of the two rivers—Mesopotamia of those days and Iraq of today. I had an assignment which brought me in contact with many prominent people, including the then British Resident, Sir Percy Cox, and his assistant, Miss Gertrude Bell, the famous orientalist.

\* \* \*

THE second Christmas since Armistice Day was just round the corner and the cosmopolitan city was agog with excitement. The Arabs of those days, like the Parsis of Bombay, made common cause with people of other nationalities when it came to celebrating some great festival, and the Baghdad Arabs were preparing to join their Christian fellow-citizens in celebrating Christmas.

I was invited by some members of the editorial staff of the "Baghdad Times" to spend Christmas day with them. I had made their acquaintance only a couple of days before, but in that short time I was able to convince myself that they were good company. So when I accepted the invitation I knew that I was in for a hectic day of junketing. And sure enough it was both hectic and scrumptious.

I attended midnight service on Christmas Eve with some other friends at a Syrian church. The rain had churned up the desert sand into a mass of slush, through which we had to wade our way to and from church with the aid of gum boots.

AFTER the service we went to wish the Parish priest a happy Christmas, and we who had originally gone to pray remained to drink four bottles of Baghdad vintage wine which the priest produced from his room with the air of a magician producing a rabbit from his hat.

It was nearly eleven when I woke up on Christmas morning feeling fighting fit and ready for a field day in the company of my journalist friends. Those who sat round the festive board were men of different faiths and nationalities—Arabs, Jews, Persians, Turks and, of course, Christians. But all of them seemed to have entered into the spirit of the day with a full realisation of what it symbolized—peace and goodwill.

\* \* \*

MY next "foreign" Christmas was in Bombay in the days before the spirit of resurgent nationalism had made it a turbulent city. Once again Christmas Eve saw me at midnight service at the Cathedral on Wodehouse Road, which was packed from altar rails to the main entrance facing the Central Y.M. C.A. Immediately after service, groups of people made a bee line for Green's, a famous restaurant of those days next to the Taj Mahal Hotel, where the elite of the city used to foregather of an evening. I was in one of those groups and the clinking of glasses and the swopping of Christmas wishes continued till the small hours of the morning.

Later in the day I found myself in the house of a Goanese friend named Coutinho. He was a musician by birth and a journalist by profession. Nearly every Goanese is a musician, and so the combination of excellent food, exquisite music and good company made it an enduring occasion for me.

One thing, however, stands out in my memory, and that is the number of men who came into my friend's house "salaaming" him for "bak-seesh". My friend was a well-to-do guy with a big heart in a frail body. So the dispensing of largess went on for a couple of hours.

MY next encounter with Christmas in a foreign land was Burma, where I had gone on another mission, which included meeting the Editor of the "Rangoon Times." Rangoon in those days lived fully up to the reputation which Kipling had given it, of being a city "where half the day is afternoon." During my sojourn in Rangoon I was staying with one of the assistant editors of the "Times", Bussey.

Two days before Christmas he told me that a Chinese friend of the proprietor of the paper, Williams, had sent an open invitation to the editorial staff to dine with him on Christmas night and that Williams had asked him to bring me along with him.

That Christmas dinner is like a spectral memory still haunting me. It was a gargantuan affair. We sat down to it at about eight and by the time we had gone through a formidable menu of fifteen courses or more, it was well past midnight.

Among the guests were two Ceylon young men, besides myself. They were Jack Andree and Earde, who is at present editor of a paper in Hongkong.

\* \* \*

JUST one more experience. This time it is Secunderabad, a part of the cantonment of Hyderabad, where a Major Cameron was running the only English daily in the whole of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's state. I had been in charge of his paper for some time while he was on duty at the Deslal Camp near Bona, where Indian troops who had returned from the war were resting and roosting.

When we came to Secunderabad that Christmas, he told me that he had planned a visit to the Home for the Aged on Christmas morning. I was staying in a boarding house run by an old, crochety Irishman named Makepeace. He used to come to my room every morning to barter a large glass of fresh milk for a double rum. Not that I was running a bar in my room, but I kept a bottle of the special Hyderabad brew handy for visitors.

\* \* \*

SO at nine on Christmas day we were at the old folks' home. It made us happy to see the smiling faces of grateful old men and women

(Continued on page 31)



A THOUGHTFUL AND PRACTICAL GREETING!

## COLOMBO APOTHECARIES' CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

A variety to meet every demand at popular prices.

### HAMPER No. 1.

- 1 bot. Lanson Vintage Champagne
- 1 bot. Drambuie Liqueur
- 1 bot. Orange Curacao Liqueur
- 2 bottles Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Gordons Gin
- 2 tins Assorted Biscuits
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup
- 1 x 1 lb. box Chocolates
- 2 tins Sausages
- 2 boxes Bon Bons
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes

Rs. 395-00

### HAMPER No. 2.

- 1 bot. Lanson Vintage Champagne
- 1 bot. Drambuie Liqueur
- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Gordons Gin
- 1 x 1 lb. box Chocolates
- 2 tins Biscuits
- 1 tin Cheese
- 1 tin Fruits in Syrup
- 2 tins Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 box Bon Bons

Rs. 360-00

### HAMPER No. 3.

- 1 bot. Lanson Vintage Champagne
- 1 bot. Drambuie Liqueur
- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Gordons Gin
- 2 tins Biscuits
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup
- 1 bot. Stuffed Olives
- 1 bot. Cocktail Cherries
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 2 boxes Bon Bons

Rs. 340-00

### HAMPER No. 4

- 1 bot. Lanson Vintage Champagne
- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Booths Gin
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 1 tin Fruits in Syrup
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 box Bon Bons

Rs. 265-00

### HAMPER No. 5

- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Booths Gin
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese
- 1 tin Sausages
- 1 tin Fruits in Syrup
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 box Bon Bons
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates

Rs. 240-00

### HAMPER No 6

- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 6 bot. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese
- 1 tin Sausages
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup
- 2 tins Jam
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 2 boxes Bon Bons

Rs. 233-00

### HAMPER No. 7

- 2 bots. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 2 boxes Bon Bons

Rs. 215-00

### HAMPER No. 8

- 1 bot. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Hennessy Brandy
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese
- 2 tins Sausages
- 1 tin Fruits in Syrup
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 2 tins Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 box Bon Bons

Rs. 185-00

### HAMPER No 9

- 1 bot. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 bot. Fruit Cordial
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese (Continued)

### HAMPER No 9 (Contd.)

- 2 tins Sausages
- 2 tins Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 bot. Stuffed Olives
- 1 bot. Cocktail Cherries
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 1 box Bon Bons
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup

Rs. 160-00

### HAMPER No. 10

- 1 bot. Black & White Whisky
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 2 tins Cheese
- 1 bot. Fruit Cordial
- 2 tins Sausages
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 2 tins Fruits in Syrup
- 2 tins Du Maurier Cigarettes

Rs. 135-00

### HAMPER No 11

- 1 bot. Black & White Whisky
- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 1 tin Cheese
- 2 tins Du Maurier Cigarettes
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 1 tin Fruits in Syrup
- 1 box Bon Bons

Rs. 110-00

### HAMPER No 12

- 1 bot. Black & White Whisky
- 3 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 1 tin Cheese
- 1 x 1 lb. tin Chocolates
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes

Rs. 80-00

### HAMPER No 13

- 6 bots. Beer
- 1 bot. Sherry
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 1 tin Cheese
- 1 tin Du Maurier Cigarettes

Rs. 50-00

### HAMPER No 14

- 3 bots. Beer
- 1 tin Biscuits
- 1 tin Cheese
- 1 tin Chocolates

Rs. 25-00

ORDERS ACCEPTED FROM NOW UP TO 21ST DECEMBER  
FOR DELIVERY ON ANY DATE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

FREE DELIVERY IN COLOMBO MUNICIPAL LIMITS

# THE COLOMBO APOTHECARIES' CO., LTD.

GROCERIES DEPT.

GROUND FLOOR.



# A PRINCE IN A SPILL

BY DOUGLAS RAFFEL

THE other day I happened to look at an old print of a photograph taken at Queen's House in the year 1882. In it, apart from the Governor, Sir James R. Longden, and his Lady, his A.D.C.'s and others, were two young men, obviously Guests of Honour. They were Prince Albert Victor, the Duke of Clarence—elder son of the Prince of Wales, later King Edward the VII—and his younger brother, Prince George, the Duke of Cornwall and York, who, when his brother Clarence died, married Princess May of Teck and eventually became our beloved King George V. There is also a slender good looking dark youngster in the photo, whom Ceylon knew so well later as Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaike, K.C.M.G., Maha Mudaliyar.

Every picture tells a story, and looking at Sir Solomon as a lad brought to my mind stories told me by my Dad of the good old times when, with his elder brother Oliver and Tom Garvin (Snr) and Solomon D.B. and Chapman Dias, and many another name well known in those distant times, they used to ride around Kollupitiya and Kurunduwatte on their ponies and horses, taking hedges and ditches with ease, on the favourites each one had himself trained.

And I suddenly remembered "the accident". My Dad knew just how to capture a boy's heart with a story bound to thrill a boyish mind. I used to climb up on to him and lie on his stomach while he lay at ease on his lounge, and inveigle him into telling me again and again his best stories. A trick a grandson of his developed later, and who is now a D.I.G.

THE Princes, Albert Victor and George, had come to Ceylon in H.M.S. "Bacchante" on a cruise out East. Prince George, as we know, was in the Navy, but what few knew was that he was mad on horses, and apart from riding, loved nothing better than driving one, two or four in hand. While out riding one morning with Equerries and A.D.C.'s, Prince George spied a dog cart and a pair of spirited greys driven by their owner. He enquired and was told they belonged

to Captain G. W. R. Campbell, late of the Greys, who was Inspector-General of Police, Ceylon, at the time and who lived in what is still known as "Captain's Gardens" in Maradana, through which our trains run to Colombo Fort today. The Captain used to breed some very fine thoroughbreds in his premises extending over many broad acres.

A message was despatched to the Captain from Queen's House, telling him that the Royal Guest would be delighted to drive his greys, and the Captain took them over to Queen's House one morning. The Prince had been up early and was ready, and taking his seat in the dog cart, he drove off alone towards Galle Face. Taking the Lower Lake track, he turned off into Union Place heading towards the Cinnamon Gardens. When he was about opposite the "Grange" (now the Colombo Commercial Company's Flats), a dog cart with two bay horses in hand came out and turned into Union Place. The young driver whipped up his fine steeds and proceeded towards Cinnamon Gardens, ahead of the Prince.

The Prince with his good eye for horses noted the bays were in fine fettle, so he whipped up too and shot ahead. The young man driving the bays said to himself, "Here is Capt. Campbell trying to show me that his greys are superior to my bays." He got abreast and, whipping up, sent out a challenge.

THE driver of the greys was not unmindful of this silent challenge, and he too whipped up and there started a race up Union Place the like of which had never been seen before. The two dog carts kept together, one leading for a few moments, then to be outpaced by the other. At the peak of the race, near the present Y.W.C.A. premises, the two inner wheels of the dog cart interlocked for a split second, and with a crash both vehicles overturned. The young drivers leapt clear and in a trice had the four horses safe on their feet and were soothing them.

It was only then that the driver of the bays discovered that the other was not the well known Campbell, but a youngster of about his own

age with an unfamiliar, yet familiar face, who with a smile called out "are your horses unhurt"? "Thank you, mine are fine, how are yours?"

At this moment two riders galloped up and, leaping off their horses, one, Capt. Campbell (later himself a K.C.M.G.), who was riding a black cob, saluted and enquired "Your Royal Highness, are you hurt"? in a frenzied voice. "No no. No one has been hurt, thank you, Mr. Inspector General. The horses too are unhurt. If you will help us to right our dog carts, all will be well in a few moments."

SO the dog carts were righted and the horses were set in their traces again. One rein was found broken, which the I.G.P. very ingeniously repaired on the spot, during which the driver of the bays was given his opportunity to bow low before the Prince and to apologise for daring to race him and cause all this pother.

"Nonsense, my dear sir, it is not your fault at all. It is as much mine as yours. These four lovely horses had to race some time and I am glad of the opportunity to be driving Capt Campbell's beauties when they did so. I never expected to find another pair of animals like his in this beautiful country. What is your name sir? If my stay permits it, I would like nothing better than to drive your bays too." Saying which the Prince shook hands with the owner of the bays and started to trot back to Queen's House, leaving rather a dazed young man who in time got back to his home in Rosmead Place and told his wife how he had run up against Royalty most unexpectedly.

That evening the I.G.P. turned up at his residence to enquire after him, his dog cart and his horses, and to inform him that it was His Royal Highness' wish that his bays be placed at his disposal to drive on a certain morning when he returned from Kandy and Nuwara Eliya.

ON the appointed morning the greys and the bays and their two owners were ready at 6, on the Galle Face green, when the Prince and his party arrived. He drove both equipages several times up and down the green, the two owners alternately driving the other pair.

(Continued on page 31)





**REFRESHING  
AS A SHOWER . .**

**D**rink in the refreshing drops of this long cool drink—Iced Soda or Ginger Ale percolated by your favourite brandy, Martell. Thirsty throats soon bloom again and "long" or "short"—voice their preference for Martell.

**MARTELL**  
*Cognac* **BRANDY**

WITH SODA or GINGER ALE

**DELMEGE FORSYTH & CO., LTD.**

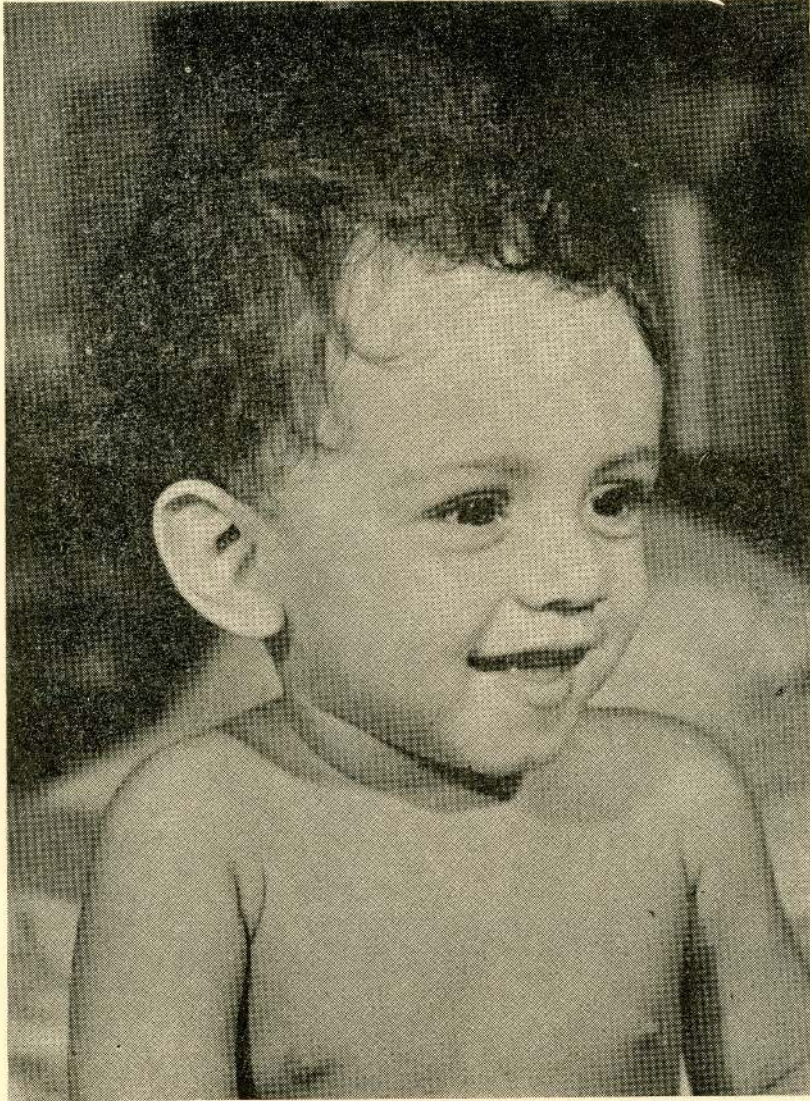




A PORTRAIT STUDY

John & Co.





A CHILD STUDY

Anon



# Life is good!



## Yes, so good with **Pelargon** THE MODERN BABY FOOD

PELARGON, Nestle's Milk Formula for infant feeding, is a milk food already complete in all the nutrients known to be essential for the first few months of an infant's life. Spray dried, homogenized milk modified by the addition of dextrin maltose, sucrose, pre-cooked starch and Lactic acid, PELARGON ensures constant and steady weight increase easy digestibility and freedom from stomach troubles, both for healthy and delicate infants.



FREE DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

Available from:

NESTLÉ'S P. O. Box 189 Colombo

A NESTLÉ PRODUCT



# CRICKET TOPICS

By W. T. GRESWELL

THE recent meeting at Lord's of the Advisory County Cricket Committee was of considerable and, may be, of vital importance to first-class cricket. The Committee invited M.C.C. to set up a Committee of Inquiry into the structure of the first-class game. The composition of this committee should be announced in the very near future and it will be granted the widest terms of reference.

Its duties will be confined to structural matters only. There have been three such committees before in recent history, one in 1937, one in 1944 and the last in 1957. It is expected that the recommendations of this new Committee will be put forward for actual practice in 1962. The state of the first-class game, as it is at present, leaves no doubt that some extremely revolutionary ideas will be discussed and for the very obvious and necessary object of restoring the game in public esteem, making it more attractive to watch and increasing gate-money takings.

IN recent years it has become increasingly apparent that first-class County cricket has nothing to sell to the public, who cannot be blamed if they use their money in other directions, of which there are many. For this state of affairs, which can go only from bad to worse, the players, now almost entirely professional, are to a great extent to blame. It would seem that their first objective is to protect their salaries rather than please spectators. They will take no risk at all in the manner of their play, and they forget that, in effect, it is the public which pays them their salaries. In the light of this situation, which is so critical that drastic measures are required, there should be no surprise if the Committee of Inquiry suggests measures of a very revolutionary kind so that first class County cricket will be served out to the public in a form not dreamt of ten years ago.

AT a meeting of the Gloucester County Cricket Club a few days ago the Chairman, Sir William Grant, warned members that if

matters did not improve financially the Club would have to close down by 1962. He stated that the Club's working account had in recent years shown a debit balance of £12,000 and this was increasing.

I know Sir William personally. He is not one to make such a public statement without care and good reason. Nearly every County is in similar difficulties, some more than others.

THE Advisory County Committee at its recent meeting decided that next year's "throwing truce", prior to the first Test match, should apply to both sides in the Australians' preliminary games with the Counties. It would be absurd for two sides in the same match to play to different rules.

Next year the Counties are to make two major experiments in the Championship matches: the follow-on law will be temporarily suspended, which means that a side will not be made to follow on, and the new ball will be taken only after 85 overs, not as at present after 200 runs or 75 overs whichever comes first. Cricket readers can form their own views on the follow-on decision, but it is difficult to see how this is going to prove vastly more attractive from the "gate" point of view. It may even lead to more games being left drawn. The new-ball decision also does not cut much ice from the fact that spin bowlers will have a longer chance. They will also take less time over each over than fast new-ball bowlers with their long runs and funereal walks between each delivery, which infuriate spectators, who want quick action and plenty of it.

AT the request of the umpires the white disc regulation, as used to check on bowlers who drag the back foot over the crease, will also apply to "leapers", or bowlers who carry their back feet in the air

mental changes have an air of melancholy about them. They do not go deep enough.

County cricket is now an invalid in a sorry state. What use to put a vase of flowers at his bedside or, if it is a lady, a bright new ribbon in her hair, when what is needed is a major operation to get the patient upstanding?

IN the meantime news from Australia is quite absorbing. The West Indians' big score of 493 against Victoria (Kanhai 252) has brought the great bone of contention Meckiff into the picture once more, but in quite a different light. His bowling average of two wickets at heavy cost had to be explained. Press reports say that Meckiff has been trying to correct his action and is now bowling with a straight arm without suspicion of throwing, but he has lost two yards in pace and can no longer cause the ball to "whip" off the pitch. This is very significant, for it means that Meckiff without a doubt was an offender under Law 26 and *knew it* or was influenced by advice from higher authority in view of next year's Tests in England and is trying to bowl within the law. It is now anybody's guess as to whether he is chosen for the coming tour.

AS a result of the South African tour here last Summer each of the First Class Counties will receive as its share of Test gate money and Television contributions the sum of £ 3,200. In some counties this will constitute artificial respiration of no mean order and it will put them on their feet for next year's Australian visit, which should produce a more bounteous harvest.

FOR  
DISTINCTIVE PORTRAITURE

**JOHN & CO.**

TURRET RD., COLPETTY.

DIAL 3063



# THE TYRE WITH THE SELF-ADJUSTING TREAD



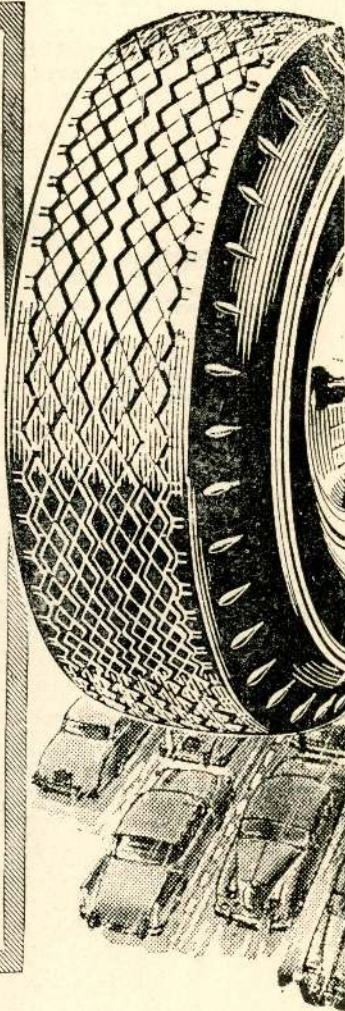
**Tread compresses  
when cruising —  
for EXTRA MILEAGE**

In normal running, the special slots in the ribs are closed. The tyre runs smoothly, silently. Steering is easy and steady. Wear is slow and even . . . you get longer mileage.



**Opens when starting  
or stopping — for  
EXTRA ROAD GRIP**

The instant you accelerate, corner or brake, the slots open into thousands of gripping edges. These give greatest control, stability and safety on any road, and on all four wheels.



**Built for safety - built to last**

**de Luxe ALL-WEATHER by**

**GOOD YEAR**

The world over, more people ride on Goodyear tyres than on any other make.

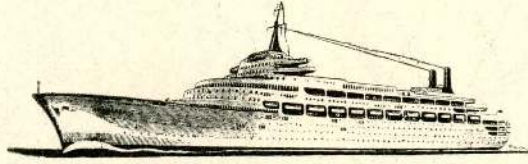
SOLE DISTRIBUTORS IN CEYLON :—

**RICHARD PIERIS & CO., LTD.**





**P.O. ORIENT LINES**



**ORIANA, 49,000 tons.**

Linking CEYLON with  
AUSTRALIA, FAR EAST, UNITED STATES,  
U.K. AND EUROPE

*Agents:* **MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO. OF CEYLON LTD.**

P.O. Box 94      COLOMBO      'PHONE 78381

**GO GAY WITH**  
**JAPLAC**

**ONE COAT LACQUER**

- VERY EASY TO APPLY
- DRIES IN. 2—4 HOURS
- RESISTS STEAM, BOILING WATER, HEAT AND GREASE
- GOES OVER ANY SURFACE
- ALL COLOURS INTERMIX

*Makers:* COLTHURST & HARDING, LTD., LONDON

*Agents and Distributors:*

**WESTERN COMMERCIAL AGENCY,**

TELEPHONE: 3261.

21, KEYZER STREET, COLOMBO



# CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA

— BY E. B. NATHANIELSZ —

*THE author made his first trip to the United States of America in 1908. Returning home he left once again in 1939, with the hope of returning in "a year or two" but stayed for 21 years. He is now in Ceylon on a short holiday.*

THERE are three big national holidays celebrated in the United States: July 4th, Independence Day, is a "big day", observed by all Americans, with parades and public meetings, and is the occasion for patriotic speeches and honouring the Flag.

Then comes Thanksgiving Day, generally the last Thursday in November, which is declared a national holiday by proclamation of the President. Its special purpose is to "offer thanks to the Almighty for the manifold benefits received during the year by the country and its people".

Preparations for Christmas begin soon after Thanksgiving. Already greeting cards for Christmas and the New Year have made their appearance in stores, chiefly because of the great many U.S. citizens in foreign lands.

\* \* \*

IT is interesting that lately banks and savings banks have begun to operate a Christmas Fund. Throughout the year, men, and women and children are able to deposit a stated sum—a dollar, two dollars or five or ten—and the accumulated amount (no interest accrues) becomes available towards the end of November, or early December, and billions of dollars are estimated to be released in this manner on an orgy of Christmas shopping and presents, for family and friends.

Fun and frolic begin with the stationing of Santa Claus in front of the large department stores. These men, who are "made up", are specially trained, given instructions on deportment, and are strictly forbidden to smoke on duty; they must be polite and courteous under all circumstances.

In the toy departments—designated Toyland—of shops also stands Santa Claus in his familiar dress. Children approach Santa shyly and he takes charge of letters naming the gifts they hanker for—to find them at the foot of the Christmas Tree or in the Christmas stocking (the letters having earlier been directed to the parents).

The stores ring with Christmas music—the popular "O, Come, All Ye Faithful", "Silent Night, Holy Night", "Joy to the World" being the most popular. The Salvation Army adds its quota, their cornets playing the hymns. The tills of the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America tinkle to the drop of coins.



Mr. E. B. Nathanielsz

A week, may be ten days, before Christmas, pine trees are planted and made secure before public offices. A tall tree, trimmed with multi-coloured lights is put down in front of the Town Hall, to be lit up with due ceremony and speech from the Mayor at the appropriate time. Such another tree stands in the centre of Broad Street, in front of the Stock Exchange. Park Street, where lie the homes of the fabulously rich and the fashionable, is a scene of beauty and loveliness. In the middle of the street and on each block are green swards crossed by streets, and on each sward, for blocks, are planted pines with coloured lights.

The brilliant spectacle of glimmering, glistening, gleaming lights is intensely enhanced, its attractiveness greatly increased, by the towering pine on the Rockefeller Plaza at 50th Street. A fountain in front sends the water cascading over its coloured lights. Shapely rein-

deer stand where stood flowering plants. The Rockefeller tree is lighted by the Mayor of the City, or Governor of the State, which presented it. A choir of workers in the Rockefeller building render special music, the soloist being a member of the Metropolitan Opera.

\* \* \*

ON Christmas Eve, there are midnight services in almost all the churches. Altars and chancel are decorated with pine trees, palms, ferns, beautiful flowers. Augmented choirs sing special Christmas music, and the churches are filled to overflowing. Again, the following day—Christmas Day—Church services are fully attended, choirs are augmented, and in many churches famous soloists are engaged. Peace, Charity, and Goodwill are the themes of the sermons, and Christmas greetings are extended from the pulpits.

In homes all is astir, all is agog on Christmas morning. The little ones dig deep into their Christmas stockings, the older ones rush to the Tree, summon Pop and Mum to be present, and watch the excited opening of the gift parcels. Sometimes, of course, Pop gets too many ties and Mom too many boxes of chocolates, and she having to watch her avoidupois too! Breakfast is light—for the big meal is ahead and already the aroma in the kitchen bespeaks the rare good dinner in the offing.

\* \* \*

NOW to Church, according to custom. Attired in their festive clothes, the family wend their way to the neighbourhood church, there to worship and to sing the well-beloved Christmas hymns and, when the service is over, to greet friends.

Home to dinner. Father presides at the head of the table. The "bird", the principal item on the menu is brought in on a special, big dish, and with carving knife and fork, Father gets down to the business of dissecting the bird, which has been done to a turn. The vegetables are passed round and they are just right, of course, and the pumpkin pie and the mince pie more than delicious. Then, fruits, nuts, plum pudding and coffee.

The afternoon is spent in quiet, the young people waiting to listen to Lionel Barrymore—no more with us—reading the "Christmas Carol".



**TASTE - TEMPTING**

**THIRST - QUENCHER !**

SPARKLING

**'PORTELLO'**

(FROM LONDON)

THE ARISTOCRAT OF ALL BEVERAGES



**PURE BEVERAGES CO., LTD.**

**COLOMBO 2,**

TELEPHONE: 2158 & 79074



# CHRISTMAS IN BRITAIN

— BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON —

**P**ART of the fascination of Christmas in the United Kingdom is to be found in the delightfully sustained joys of anticipation. The earliest intimations come almost incongruously—like sleigh bells in the tropics.

For my own part, I was first reminded of the festive season back in hot sunny August when visiting a big turkey farm in the English county in Hampshire. As in other counties, notably Norfolk, the birds were then only modestly rotund, able to dance over the stubble in stately minuets. As I write, they waddle in sated glory, destined soon for London's Smith-field and other great meat markets and their ultimate goal on millions of Christmas dinner tables.

Not turkeys alone, but the beef of old England and immense York hams and sides of bacon will soon be piling up in the shops. Battalions of white-bearded Father Christmasses are already deploying themselves in bazaars all over Britain. I often wish our overseas visitors could sometimes defer their vacation until December, if only to see these Toy Fairs.

## FASHIONS IN TOYS

**I**T was back in September that I got my first whiff of Yuletide excitement during a call at Pollock's Toy Museum, a 130-year old establishment with headquarters now in Monmouth Street, in the "theatreland" of London's West End. Already plans were being made to augment the toy theatre display with a Christmas exhibition of traditional playthings like hobby horses and stuffed dolls, which, as a contrast in this age of rocketry and space travel, seem to be coming back into favour again.

But the British Toy Manufacturers' Association waited until November before putting their cards on the table. Now we have learnt that the main toy trends go to extremes. Dolls are big, some of them teenage, with sophisticated hair styles. Giant giraffes and teddy bears made of nylon are in demand.

Boys however, are inclined to miniaturisation in the shape of

automobile track-lay-outs or train sets they can build up themselves. Indeed, kit construction in the mood of "Do-It-Yourself" looks like sweeping the country. There are kits for jet airliners, for making model houses and factories, and, of course, moonships and other vessels cruising into outer space.

\* \* \*

## BRITAIN'S TOY INDUSTRY

**BRITAIN'S** toy industry, especially in overseas markets, has made amazing strides in recent years. In 1945, exports totalled only £400,000. Last year the figure was £8,000,000. According to Mr. C. A. Rassier, council member of the British Toy Manufacturers' Association, £8,000,000 is just about what home buyers are expected to spend on toys this Christmas.

Toys may change from year to year, but the one Christmas institution which stays rooted in the hearts of Britain's children everywhere is the good old-fashioned pantomime. Not even television has shaken its foundations. In fact, it was attending a television rehearsal for "Aladdin" in October that took my mind back to the inflexible pantomime formula of my youth—the Principal Boy and Girl (both played by girls), the Dame (always a man) and a galaxy of characters good and bad, all of whom ended up as friends in the last act.

\* \* \*

## TELEVISION PANTOMIMES

**T**ELEVISION pays tribute to pantomime by offering versions of its own or relaying performances from theatres up and down the country. This Christmas at least 15 big-scale pantomimes are being staged in London and the provinces, ranging from "Turn Again, Whittington" at London's famous Palla-

(Contd. on page 31)

## Christmas & New Year Fare



**PERERA  
AND SONS LTD**





Why do  
doctors  
recommend  
**'Ovaltine'?**



All over the world, doctors rely on 'Ovaltine'. They recommend it especially to combat the debilitating effects of fever and other illnesses.

Doctors know how 'Ovaltine's' delicious flavour tempts the fickle appetite; how easily 'Ovaltine' is digested, even by weakened systems; how the concentrated goodness of 'Ovaltine' restores and strengthens body and brain.

'Ovaltine' is made from ripe barley malt, pure creamy cow's milk and specially prepared cocoa, together with natural phosphatides and vitamins. It is further fortified with additional vitamins B and D.

For young and old, as a meal-time drink or as a night-cap, there's no better beverage than 'Ovaltine'. And, at a cost of less than 15 cents per cup, it's truly economical! Insist on 'Ovaltine'!



— and don't forget —

**OVALTINE RUSKS**

Crisp, delicious and nourishing.  
Invaluable for Baby at teething  
time.

**OVALTINE**  
**(Malt+Milk+Vitamins!)**

Distributors : A. Baur & Co. Ltd.

C.529a



**CHRISTMAS IN BRITAIN***(Continued from page 29)*

dium, to "The Sleeping Beauty" in Birmingham. Cardiff has "Mother Goose", Liverpool presents "Robinson Crusoe" Manchester has "Humpty Dumpty" and Nottingham the ever-loved "Cinderella".

Pantomime on ice is exemplified by "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs", Tom Arnold's first-ever ice version of the Walt Disney classic, at the famous Empire Pool, Wembley in North London. And, of course, there is Bertram Mills' Circus in its 34th Christmas season at London's Olympia.

\* \* \*

**FOR GROWN UPS**

**F**OR grown-ups, the most interesting stage venture this Christmas is the opening up of London's Aldwych Theatre as a second "home" for the world-renowned Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company of Stratford, birthplace of William Shakespeare.

Visitors from all over the world make pilgrimage to Stratford for the season, which runs from April to November. Now the company, under director Peter Hall, will divide its forces. The Christmas play at the Aldwych will be Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night", starring Dorothy Tutin and Eric Porter.

By April, when the normal Stratford season of Shakespeare will have begun, two companies will be functioning simultaneously. This means that visitors to London without the time or opportunity to go to Stratford, will be able to savour at Aldwych much of that unique flavour which has made Stratford the haunt of Shakespeare lovers from all corners of the globe.

**STRIKING A BALANCE***(Continued from page 7)*

One relaxation not enjoyed in the past and now not available in every country is television. It is a tremendous boon for the old. It is good value for the sports programmes alone, that is to say, racing, athletics, both kinds of football and cricket. After striking a balance I can say with truth that I do not miss the high life to which I was accustomed in Ceylon and which I might still find if I lived abroad. At my age England is the only country.

**THE PRINCE IN A SPILL***(Continued from page 19)*

At the end of over an hour the Prince declared both pairs equally good, and said he had spent a delightful morning. He talked freely with everyone present, discussing, informally, horses in a manner which showed he knew how to look for good points in an animal, while feeding the four with cube sugar and carrots. Then mounting a fine charger he galloped back to Queen's House with a wave of his hand, followed by his staff.

A few days later the Jetty was all agog again with flags and bunting and the Band of the Devonshire Regiment in attendance. The Princes were leaving in the "Bacchante", and all Colombo and his wife was there, the men in their frock coats and top hats, the ladies in beautiful summery frocks with picture hats and gay parasols. The scene was one to delight the heart of anyone with an eye for beauty as the Subalterns of the Devonshires, who carried their colours, went through their martial movements proudly.

As Their Royal Highnesses walked through the Jetty to the waiting Barge on which the Royal Standard was broken, Prince George, Duke of Cornwall and York, had a very special handshake and smile for the two men whose horses had given him so much pleasure during his all too short sojourn in Ceylon.

**CHRISTMAS IN OTHER LANDS***(Continued from page 17)*

as they consumed a dozen bottles of the Nizam's "special" and two large Christmas cakes. Three weather-beaten Anglo-Indians were not satisfied until we gave them two extra clandestine drinks.

As we left, the whole lot of them raised deafening cheers, the good nuns joining them heartily. When I turned to get a parting glimpse of the carol singers I noticed large, glistening drops of tears cascading down their cheeks.

What the alcoholic content of those tears was I am unable to say, but I can say this: it was the most satisfying Christmas I had had in all my journalistic ramblings, for the real happiness of Christmas lies in making others happy.

**THE DUKE AND THE KUMARIHAMY***(Continued from page 9)*

against him by the Kandyan chief concerned. For there is obvious malice in what he says, even if we grant that there can be no absolute standards in judging masculine beauty.

But Capper's description of the young lady is a gem. As a successor of his, several times removed, in the post of the Colombo Correspondent of "The Times", London, I must confess I would not have had the courage or the perception to attempt such a description—if I was fortunate enough to meet the Kumarihamy as a sweet eighteen.

**BAUR'S FERTILISERS**

- ECONOMY  
for ● EFFICIENCY  
● RELIABILITY

Free expert advice available on all matters  
of Planting, Manuring and Plant Protection.

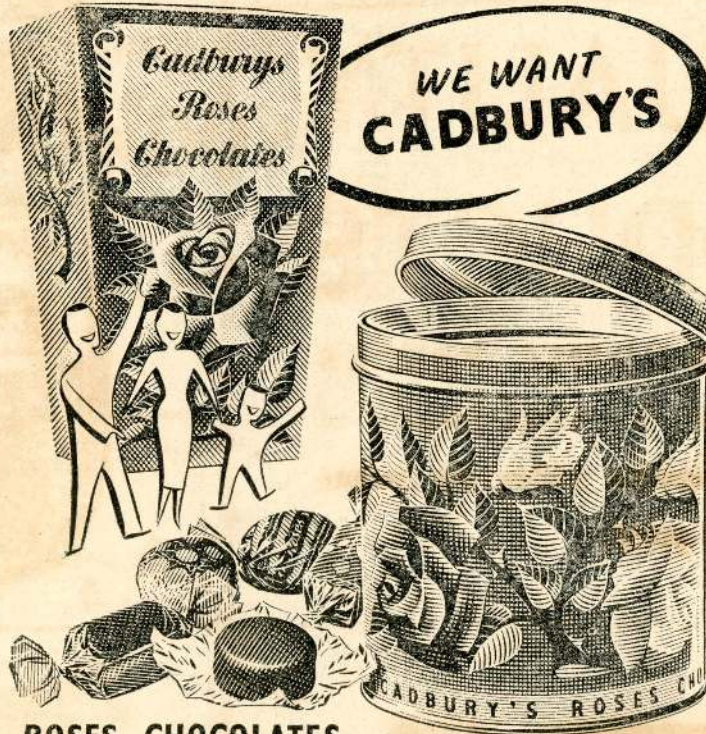
**A. BAUR & CO., LTD.**

The Ceylon Manure Works.

P. O. Box 11, Colombo.

Telephone: 78251 - (5 Lines)





**ROSES CHOCOLATES**  
 IN GAILY COLOURED FOILS AND WRAPS

DELMEGE FORSYTH & CO., LTD.



By Appointment  
 to Her Majesty The Queen  
 Scotch Whisky Distillers  
 James Buchanan & Co. Ltd.



JAMES BUCHANAN & CO. LTD.  
 GLASGOW · SCOTLAND



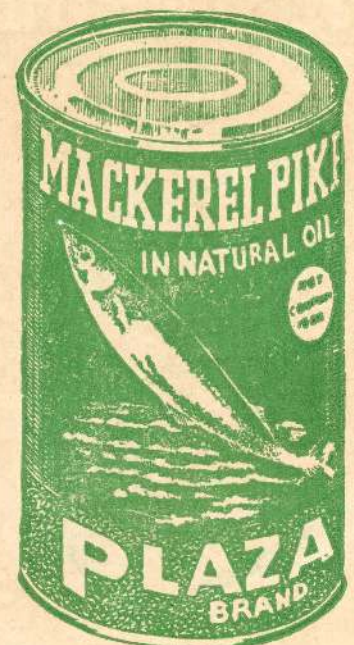
# QUALITY PRODUCTS

AT ECONOMIC PRICES  
The C. W. E. brings promise of  
quality groceries within the means  
of every purse.



ICEBERG BUTTER  
C. W. S. JAMS  
PLAZA TIN FOODS

*Remember it's worth  
your while shopping  
at the*





# SHOP WINDOW

OF MODERN AIDS TO  
BETTER LIVING

*It's Here!*

T  
H  
E  
N  
E  
W



## HOOVER CONSTELLATION VACUUM CLEANER

Modern | Mobile | Manoeuvrable!

**Your Dhoby problem solved  
with the amazing ● ● ●**

## HOOVERMATIC

6 lbs. of clothes Washed... Rinsed... Spun dry  
all in 8 minutes



*Complete with built-in heater*

The Hoovermatic is the greatest washing advance since HOOVER pioneered the popular washing machine. It washes, Rinses, and spins your clothes dry; all in one continuous operation. Gently, thoroughly and a cleanest wash of all. Heats water too, empties automatically. It's the most complete, compact and efficient washing machine you've ever seen.

# SOLIS HAIR DRYERS



Precision Solis from Switzerland. One hand operation hot and cold air at the flick of a finger. 750 watts AC/DC Model 106 U-four heat regulations.

Rs. 70/-

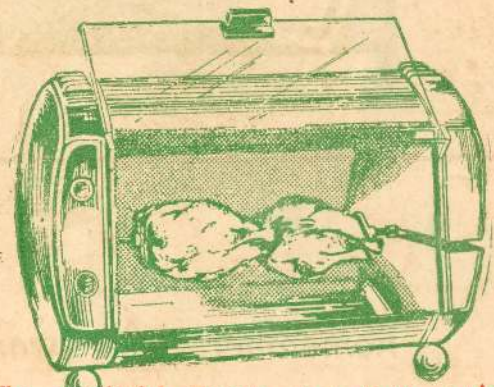
Model 99—A handy drier specially designed for professional hairdressers. Complete with curling brush and comb.

Rs. 115/-

Standard Model No. 54 with stand. Rs. 55/-

HOODS FOR ALL MODELS.

Rs. 20/-



The wonderful Turmix Roto-Grill from Switzerland. Rich radiant infra-red heat from ultra modern quartz elements does your grills to a turn. Do small grills and toasted savoury snacks on the grill shelf: whole joints, chicken or game birds on the fascinating automatic rotating spit.

Rs. 300/- only.



## WALKER, SONS & CO. LTD.

Main Street, Colombo 1.  
Bandarawela, Galle, Jaffna, Kandy.  
Nuwara Eliya, Matara, Ratnapura, Talawakelle.