

TRIBUNE

Foreign Affairs

Lever Bros'. Activities

The "Morning Times" last Monday splashed the news that "a leading European firm of shop-keepers has been served with an ultimatum by the Government to either Ceylonise its share capital or wind up its business with countries from which only Ceylonese are now permitted to import merchandise. It is learnt that the firm concerned is Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co Ltd. Matters of grave national importance concerning foreign capital and foreign firms are involved in this issue and Government should have a clear cut policy on this question.

In the case of Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co Ltd, according to the *Morning Times*, the matters came to a head when the "Managing Director of the firm made representations to

the Government against the denial of licences for it to continue its import of merchandise from Iron Curtain countries in Europe and from Japan." The report went on further to state that the Board of Directors would discuss this matter at their next meeting, and decide "whether the company's Ceylon branches should be wound up or whether the firm should proceed to have a minimum of 51% of its share capital Ceylonised".

Ceylonisation

Whilst it is entirely a matter for the Company to decide to move with the time in Asia, it must be stressed that the Ceylon Government is absolutely correct in insisting that foreign firms should not stand in the way of helping Ceylonese to find their feet in business. One of the ways devised to help Ceylonese in business was to restrict import licenses for goods from communist countries to nationals of the island. It must be mentioned that under the old colonial regime very little or no trade was transacted with countries outside the charmed circles of "Commonwealth countries." With the end of the Second

World War and the emergence of a large bloc of Socialist countries, a new East-West trade developed in spite of the Cold War. Even the old UNP government was compelled to adopt a halting and reluctant policy of trading with the socialist countries and accepted at the same time the wholesome principle that this trade should be reserved for Ceylonese. The MEP government is pledged to extend the trade with all countries irrespective of ideological differences and also to encourage the Ceylonisation of trade and commerce.

Consistent with such a policy, a Mission is now on its way to Moscow and Peking to establish diplo-matic and trade missions. And at home, the Government cannot permit even long standing firms like Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co Ltd., any special privileges. *In fact, Government should go further and review the position of all foreign firms which operate as foreign monopolies. In India this has been done and various measures have been taken to protect national business undertakings against the pressure and the power of international monopolies.*

Lever Bros

Perhaps the biggest international monopoly operating in Ceylon in a field where there are Ceylonese producers is Lever Bros. in the making of soaps, toilet preparations and cooking oils and fats. In India, the Government has enacted legislation restricting the further growth of this monopoly by even going to the extent of not allowing the renovation of its machinery. In Ceylon, in the last twenty years scores of small producers of soap and cooking

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CEYLON NEWS REVIEW
COLOMBO, Sept. 1, 1956

Vol. 3, No. 16

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FILMS

Men of the Fighting Lady at the Majestic.

Van Johnson and Walter Pidgeon.

The dialogue of this film was entirely Greek to me. That perhaps is an exaggeration. But, forsooth, I don't think I was able to follow more than five percent of it. Not that the other ninety five was worth listening to anyway. But it is sometimes nice to know what jet pilots have to say to their comrades about jets and things. Especially when one has paid about Rs. 3 to find out. I might say here that I am one of the many cinema goers in this island who squirm and rebel at the price of cinema seats especially for the kind of seat you get and the kinds of fare you get. Add to these the deficiencies of the sound equipment and air conditioning systems that do everything but air condition, and you make the rebels more rebellious. However to stick to the film.

It is difficult to believe, that morbid quotation from John Donne can find a place among the gadgetry of a modern American battleship. But there it was, rather prophetically read out by Louis Calhern, for whom the bells have tolled indeed thereby diminishing by yet another, the already diminished coterie of eminent Hollywood actors. It must be difficult to make an interesting film about air raids. There is a sameness about all raids. The differences are merely numerical. Some return. Others do not. Here we are taken on three or four raids over Chinese territory, (This by the way is the Korea War.) In order to blow out of existence a seemingly innocuous railway yard. But it is evidently not the kind of yard that can be disposed of so easily. Jets may come and Jets may go, but this yard certainly goes on for

ever. Incidentally bombing enemy targets in this war must have been a piece of cake for American pilots. We did not see a single M. I. G. or whatever it was the Chinese Communists flew against them. Just as we were making up our minds to sit the next raid out, we were introduced to the reason why this film was made - the reenacting of a true story of how a blinded pilot is instructed by a colleague from another plane to land his jet successfully on the flight deck of the carrier. The chances of success in an operation of this kind are a million to one. And it came off. Phew! I was glad when it was all over and the pilot was removed not altogether in pieces from the cockpit. The interest and suspense of these few minutes saved the film from being entirely soporific. And a whole lot of mawkish sentiment of the peculiarly American brand was laid on with a shovel, to break the monotony. But it did not.

I for one am quite allergic to the charms of Van Johnson such

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as they are. Walter Pidgeon unfortunately lets his pipe get in the way of his articulation and quite often his acting. Perhaps he will put that in his pipe and smoke it.

N.

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ADLAI STEVENSON

By courtesy of the *National Guardian*, New York, we publish this article on the Democratic candidate in the coming Presidential Elections in the U.S.A. Although this profile appeared in the *National Guardian* of October 31, 1955, it is a most revealing analysis of the politics of Stevenson. As foreseen in this article Adlai has won the Southern bloc on the promise of a "gradualist moderate" policy towards the Negro-Question.

The Brown High School Band, complete with high-stepping drum-majorettes, drew up at the Atlanta, Ga., municipal airport on Nov. 24, 1953, and blared: "Are You From Dixie?"

Adlai Ewing Stevenson stepped out of the plane and squarely faced up to that question. At a press conference in the Henry Grady Hotel a Negro reporter asked him whether he thought segregation wasn't lending strength to communist criticism of the U.S. abroad. The *Atlanta Constitution* said:

"Stevenson replied that it is poor grace for the people of India to criticize the U.S. when India's caste system is the worst segregation system in the world. The loyalty of the American Negro is the finest argument against communism, Stevenson asserted."

Dig That Downbeat

The U.S. Supreme Court was then considering school desegregation and Georgia's Gov. Herman Talmadge had just made the headlines with his proposal to wipe out the public school system altogether rather than end jimcrow. Stevenson stayed at the Governor's mansion, and managed to avoid any reference to desegregation. He applauded the South for its progress on the "social question" and the Negroes for being "overwhelmingly anti-communist."

Stevenson's performance moved Georgia's Democratic State Chairman James S. Peters to call him "a

great liberal Democrat who apparently understands the Southern problem." The *Constitution* glowingly reported:

"Georgia, with its band playing, its flags flying and thousands of its citizens cheering, swept the head of the Democratic Party to its state heart."

The headline was:

Adlai Sees Party Unity on Civil Rights Paving Road to Victory in '56

A newspaper cartoon depicted Stevenson leading a band in which a Southern "gentleman" with goatee, broad-brimmed hat and cheroot beat a drum and said: "Beat it out, Sir. Y'got the downbeat, now."

Not New for Adlai

Stevenson cultivated that downbeat throughout the South. It was no casual flirtation. Democratic Party Chairman Stephen Mitchell, preceding Stevenson, told a Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Atlanta that the party was being rebuilt "on the solid foundation of the Democratic South." Advance runners stressed Stevenson's Kentucky an-

Einstein on Adlai

... On the other hand he staggered me by saying that Adlai Stevenson would be dangerous in foreign politics; but it seemed that here his mind was fixed on the disaster of Wilson. He shuddered at the thought of Wilson of Princeton. What a calamity it was that Clemenceau had to give way to that dangerous man!

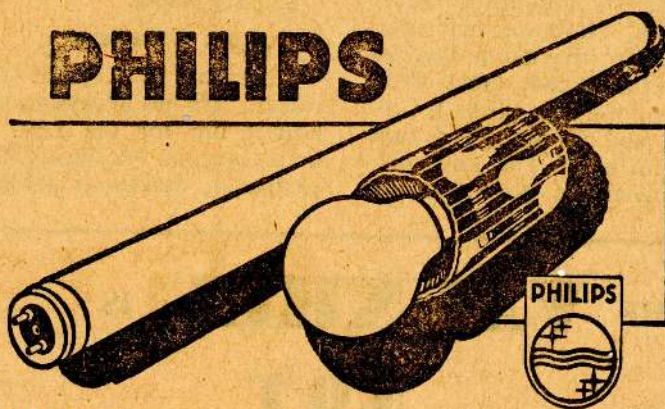
From "A Memory of Einstein," by V. S. Pritchett, in the *New Statesman & Nation*, 23/4/55.

cestry and with a wink called him a "reasonable man" — by which, it was clearly understood they meant a man with a long, patient, gradualist view of jimcrow.

It was not a new role for Stevenson. During the 1952 campaign, while he took the cheers of liberal Northern groups, Stevenson in stumping Virginia called the Re-

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Adlai Stevenson

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construction period "the black years," hailed the "valuable heritage of the Old South" and the glories of the Confederate Constitution. When the tallies were in that year Stevenson did not win an electoral majority of a single state outside the South. Moreover, his Northern liberal talk had lost him five Southern and border states. It was plain that Stevenson would not again risk his loyal Southern strongholds. His relations with Harry S. Truman, who had reportedly antagonized some Southerners, cooled swiftly.

New Solidity

The wooing of the South has now paid off. In Point Clear, Ala., last week the conference of Southern governors made it clear there would be no bolting next year, no Dixiecrat movement. The South would be solid again—and in command of the Democratic Party. The party's Congressional policy is already firmly in the hands of Southern politicians who occupy all the key committee posts. It is not likely that the party's candidate will be allowed to stray from the old plantation.

Robert C. Albright in the *Washington Post* 29/555 quoted a "liberal Democrat":

"The Democratic Party is being made over perceptibly into the image of Sen. George."

As the party's most ardent wooer of the South, Stevenson may enter the convention very like a favorite son of South. Already Govs. Wetherby (Ky.), Clement (Tenn.), Collins (Fla.) and Griffin (Ga.) have come out for him. The only outspokenly dissenting governors are

Kennan (La.) and Shivers for Eisenhower. Folsom of Alabama said only: "I'm for Truman," which might indicate no more than a reluctance to jump at the first calliope call of the Stevenson bandwagon. Gary of Oklahoma said he would take either Stevenson or Harriman.

Three-Horned Dilemma

The political headquarters of the South is currently in Texas, at the LBJ ranch of Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson, who is apparently out of the running himself because of a heart attack, but nevertheless is masterminding Southern strategy. Adlai Stevenson was making his pilgrimage to the LBJ when President Eisenhower was stricken. Shortly afterward Johnson and House Speaker Rayburn reportedly gave him the nod.

Stevenson's dilemma is that he must keep the Southern bosses happy, prove his "regularity" to the machine in his home state of Illinois and still sound like a liberal for the benefit of labour and independents. It isn't easy because what endears him to the South is what might alienate him from the North.

Max K. Gilstrap in the *Christian Science Monitor* 13/1055 reported that Stevenson advisers

"... believe that the Democrats... will wish to nominate to the right of the party's more ardent liberals. In their thinking, Mr. Stevenson, who, they say, never has been a thorough-going Truman Fair Dealer, is the answer to what the country wants."

Driven out of the devil

Stevenson is at home right of center. He has always reserved his hottest fire for the Left. In Albuquerque, N. M. during the 1952 campaign, Stevenson assailed com-

munism with the frenzy of a high priest denouncing sin.

"So I would say to any Americans who cling to illusions about communism and its false Utopia: wake up to the fact that you are in an allegiance with the devil and you must act soon if you hope to save your souls."

He boasted:

"We have prosecuted the Communist leadership. Where the law has been violated the Justice Dept. has indicted and convicted the criminals. In all this effort we have had the faith and resourceful work and the national protection of the Federal Bureau of Investigation..."

He enthusiastically supported the Korean War at a time when Eisenhower was vowing to end it, writing in the *Foreign Affairs Quarterly Review*:

"There is of course, no tidy solution to the Korean problem, precisely because it is only a part of the whole Soviet imperialist drive—an episode really in the sweep of history which relentlessly confronts freedom with thralldom."

When the Soviet Union was pressing a reluctant Washington to end the Cold War, Stevenson objected violently:

"One can take almost any of the Marxist slogans and substitute the word 'peace' for the 'revolution.' In Soviet double-talk they mean the same."

Shocked by Ike

On Taft-Hartley Stevenson pussy-footed; he called at first only for amendments and in the end for repeal, to be replaced by a law that would be neither F-H nor the Wagner Act. Similarly, he came

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RACIALISM

No one who has ever seen a white man's lip curl as he spits out the word "nigger" or who has felt the deep contempt in a Negro's voice as he refers to "white trash," can have any doubt about the emotional content of such terms. True, when the English child learns the nursery rhyme about the "Ten Little Nigger Boys" who sat down to dine, the word "nigger" is used in a warm, friendly way; but words have an emotive power for the recipient as well as for the dispenser, and many Negroes rise in resentment at what they imagine to be racial prejudice. Similarly, although the word "Negress" may be used in its simple descriptive sense, without any offensive intent, it may nevertheless carry objectionable connotations of the day when plantation owners took female slaves as concubines.

To take another examples, the words "Jew" and "Jewess" are in essence simply classificatory terms, no more objectionable than "author" and "authoress"; yet so sensitive to possibilities of anti-semitic prejudice have some individuals become, they will circumlocute about "a man (or a woman) of the Hebrew faith" to avoid the risk of giving offence. Just as, in poetry, certain words have not only a surface significance, but also a rich emotional content which gives them layer upon layer of meaning, so many words relating to race have complex associations which introducing thick incrustations of prejudice. And, if the child is to learn his native language really well, he must become aware of this complex quality of words.

Emotional

Take the adjectives "black", "brown", "yellow", and "white". Applied to paints or fabrics, they are simply descriptive words implying nothing beyond the facts of colour difference. But use them in the phrases "black race," "brown race," "yellow race," and "white race" — and how subtly the adjectives imply grades of merit and demerit! Usually unrecognized on the conscious level, but often a potent

catalyst of emotion, "white" now becomes set apart from the other three colour adjectives, and carries with it an idea of basic cleanliness which "black" and "brown" and "yellow" do not share. Then there is white as the symbol of purity and virginity, and there is white as "not-coloured" while black and brown and yellow are "coloured." This last implication, indeed, commonly becomes quite explicit, as when "coloured" is used as a synonym or euphemism for "Negro."

This complex emotional content of the word "white" would become apparent to children of European origin if, for a period, they and their teacher deliberately used the rather more appropriate adjective "pink" in classroom discussions of ethnic differences. The sense of superiority which comes to many people when they think of themselves as white rather than brown disappears when they think of themselves as pink, and the thrill or horror which is aroused in some by the idea of inter-marriage between black and white does not

Racial prejudice develops at a very early age and should be averted right from the primary school. Educators and social workers believe that now is the time to take concerted action and have asked U.N.E.S.C.O. to launch a world-wide campaign to foster racial understanding and tolerance. They propose the introducing of correct conceptions about race into the teaching of history, geography, biology and other school subjects. And language must be watched.

In this article from a handbook for teachers which U.N.E.S.C.O. is to publish shortly, Dr. Cyril Bibby of the University of London Institute of Education points out that words are often sufficient to breed misunderstanding and hostility.

arise in the same way at the thought of the mingling of black and pink. This word "mingling" too is richly emotive in the context of race.

"Mingling," or "mixture," is often expressive of adulteration or impurity; there is the dishonest dairyman mixing

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RACIALISM

(continued from page 245)

water with his milk, there is the appalling consequence of sewage becoming mingled with drinking water. Not in any conscious or verbalised way do these ideas normally arise; they are more likely to be deep down in the semantic structure of the language. This is why, by many people, a "pure" Negro or a "pure" European or a "pure" Indian are regarded with equal respect, but a person of "mixed blood" is viewed with something approaching loathing. For the phrase "mixed blood" carries with it not only the emotive implications of "mixed" but also the extremely powerful surcharging of the word "blood."

Complex

One speaks of one's child as being "of my own blood"; there is the common saying "blood is thicker than water"; the closest ties of comradeship are those between "blood brothers"; there are the metaphors of "blue blood," "plebeian blood" and "new blood"; an orator may arouse high passion by talk of "British Blood" or "Russian blood" or "American blood". Blood is the very life-stream and its mythology is rich and varied. Similarly, the words "half caste" (with its implication on the one hand of something less-than-complete and on the other hand of something to be ranked in a scale of social value) and "mulatto" (with its foreign-sounding form, in its first syllable faintly reminiscent of the hybrid progeny of the horse and ass, and in its ending evoking memories of the sinister stiletto) often carry connotations far more complex than is usually recognized. And, while it is primarily for the biology teacher to provide children with the basic factual knowledge about genes, it is essentially the task of the teacher of language to sharpen his pupils' awareness of the ways in which words may carry complex intimations of meaning. To recognise the existence of irrational feelings is often the first step to liberating oneself from them, and the teacher can contribute a good deal to the emotional emancipation of his pupils by helping them to understand how it is that certain words and phrases come to arouse feelings of this kind.

It is, however, not only in the language or literature lesson that opportunities arise to help children

to cope with the complex emotional content of words. The biology lesson, for example, may present a suitable occasion to isolate the proper meaning of "pure-bred," as a genetically descriptive term, from the implication of virtue and superiority which often attach to the term. The history or geography lesson may give the teacher a chance to distinguish the descriptive senses of "hords" and "tribes" from their accompanying suggestions of crude violence and primitive ignorance. In almost any subject of the curriculum, the enormous emotive power of the word "blood" may make itself felt, and care can be taken that this power does not, as it may very easily do, carry over into the children's attitudes to race relations.

So with the very word "race" itself. Passing into general usage in its present sense after Puffon gave it its seal of his approval in 1749, the word had earlier been used in the sense of the "human race," and in the sense of the posterity of a person, as in the phrase "the race of Abraham." And, subtly still today, the word carries with it something of this complex connotation, so that on the one hand the members of another "race" are not quite human and on the other hand they are not quite of one's own kith and kin. And, as a result, many a many who is well aware of the scientific facts about race is



nevertheless unable to cast off completely his irrational feelings about it.

We must help children to pass beyond the stage of abandoning fallacious beliefs, and to progress into the stage of getting rid also of irrational fears.

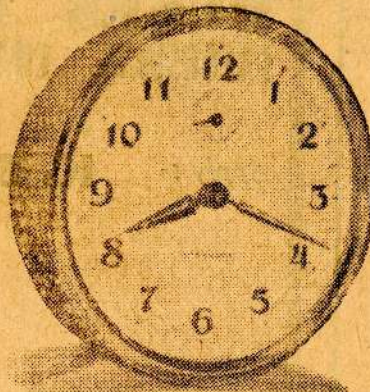
While avoiding the danger of mere verbal quibbling and destructive disparagement, it would be possible to encourage in children an attitude unfavourable to the growth of racial prejudice. And, thus, building on the earlier and narrower loyalties to family and friends and community and nation, we may foster a feeling of belonging to humanity as a whole;

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WEEK by WEEK in CEYLON

★ FEDERAL LEADERS

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★ PRIVATE PRACTICE

The Federal Party Convention held in Trincomalee during the week-end August 18-19 passed off peaceably in spite of the scare raised not only by the Sinhalese racial fanatics but also by Tamil alarmists like Ethirmanasingham. The Prime Minister must be congratulated on having assessed the situation correctly and permitted the Rally. To disallow it would have been a denial of civil liberties. The Federal leaders, on their part, co-operated with the Government in choosing a route through the jungles of Mullaitivu in order to reduce possible provocation to Sinhalese racialists to a minimum.

The Convention itself was not the "dam squib" the Premier thought it would turn out to be, nor was it the roaring success that some Federal enthusiasts had hoped it would be. For one thing, it did not bring all the Tamil speaking people of the island together. Apart from the fact that leaders like Ponnambalam, Suntharalingam and the Left elements among Tamils were out of it, the Convention was not able to attract the Ceylon Indians nor the bulk of the Ceylon Muslims.

It was probably because of this that the Convention resolution was a relatively "mild" one in that it gave an year's ultimatum to the Government to establish a Federal Union on the basis of a Tamil State and a Sinhalese State. In the one year the Party probably hopes to win more support for its proposed mass action.

Whatever views one might entertain about Federalism as a solution to the communal tension in the country, there can be no doubt that, at the moment, the Tamil Arasu Katchi is the dominant political organisation among the Tamils of the North and the East of the island.

Rajaratne

The Sri Lanka Freedom Party and the MEP has gained a great deal of public confidence as a result of the expulsion of Konarage M. P. Rajaratne and Felix Jayasu-

riya. Now in the wilderness of political isolation, this mischievous pair will realise that it is one thing to shout Hitlerian threats while being members of a popular party in power, and that it is quite another thing to raise the same (or even more fanatical) slogans "Independents" or even as sponsors of a new party. As members of the ruling MEP every statement of theirs earned front-page headlines, and now their most vehement and vitriolic denunciations are tucked away in small paragraphs on inside pages.

The expulsion of these two gentlemen has been taken as a sign that Premier Bandaranaike feels that he is strong enough without the support of the racial fanatics. He will go up in even higher public estimation if he is able to curb the rabid enthusiasm of Dahanayake which makes him behave like a petty dictator in certain matters (he is meek, mild and reasonable in other matters); and also persuade Philip Gunawardene not to play Jekyll and Hyde with the port workers.

Doctors

The Government Medical Officers

Association (GMOA) must be congratulated for having persisted in a demand which it had raised some time ago that there should be a complete ban on private practice in so far as Government doctors were concerned. This demand was coupled with the demand that a fresh scale of salaries be drawn up, a scale, which the GMOA, stressed would increase the Health Vote by only 6%. What was emphasised was that whilst government doctors realised that private practice led to grave abuses, the amount of salaries they drew now were totally inadequate to cope with the contemporary standards of living.

Press reports indicate that the Minister of Health has received this submission with approval and that the matter will be placed before the Cabinet soon. It is hoped that the Cabinet will accept the memorandum of the doctors because it would be possible to ban private practice if doctors are paid a remuneration which will keep them out of the necessity and the temptation to supplement their income through private practice.

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Member for Point Pedro, P. Kandiah, must be congratulated for turning the spotlight of attention on the affairs of the University during the Committee stage of the Budget debate. The Ceylon University at Peradeniya is probably the 'costliest' University in the world in the sense that more money has been spent on it considering the number of students it accomdates than any other comparable institution. But the tragedy is not in cost alone. As Kandiah rightly pointed out, the University is no more than a glorified cramshop where parasites thrived in abundance. The teachers in the University were more concerned said Kandiah, with the siting of their bungalows and their trips abroad rather than more fundamental problems like proper teaching and reasearch. In the fifteen years of its existence as a University, the Jennings cramshop has turned out young people only keen about safe jobs in Government and not patriots or researchers interested either in the welfare or the development of the country or in academic studies.

The Minister of Education undertook in the course of the debate to look into the whole problem of the University in the light of Kandiah's criticism. It will be no easy task for the Minister to undo all the harm that the arch-imperialist Sir Ivor Jennings has done for University education in this country. Cynics have commented that the old University College did far more useful work in the field of higher education than the Jennings cramshop at Peradeniya. The public await the Minister's action with anxiety and eagerness. The suggestion that Universities should be established in Colombo as well as in Jaffna also deserves serious consideration.

AYURVEDA

The resignation of the Principal of the Ayurvedic College Dr. Lenora and the Chairman of Board, Malewana Gnanissara Thero, bring into the open a crisis that has been brewing in the field of Ayurveda even since the new Minister of

Health took office. Dr. Lenora and the ruling authorities in the College of Indigenous Medicine have so far believed that the traditional ayurvedic medicines and system should be combined with what Western medicine has to offer. In fact, in addition to the herbalist and other remedies of Ayurveda, the licentiates of the College of Indigenous Medicine have been taught the proper use of such drugs as penicillin, sulpham, fodine and the like. This development has been strongly resented by some of the older and more conservative ayurvedic physicians who have objected to the use of any method or drug that has come from the West. This group has insisted on the practice of Ayurveda as it has been done over 2000 years ago and has maintained that modern science has not discovered anything that was unknown to the ancients. If only research was carried out into old manuscripts and the like, these gentlemen declare, all the wonders of modern Western medicine could be found in pristine glory.

The present Minister of Health to judge from some of her statements, seems to be of the view that Ayurveda and Western Medicine should be kept apart. She has been strongly critical of the methods adopted by the Lenora school of teaching ayurvedic medicine. It is difficult to decide whether she objects more to borrowing from the West or to the fact that some of the persons on the Board of the Collge of Indigenour Medicine, like the Chairman, have been staunch supporters of the UNP. Whatever it is, it is time that Government decides on a definite policy towards ayurveda.

In this conection we cannot do better than to refer to what is happening in China. *Tribune* has published in the past a series of articles about the manner that modern China is utilising her traditional

systems of medicine. The articles have shown how the successful methods of ayurvedic treatment were subjected to modern scientific research and how the *raison de etre* for the cures effected were discovered. By that process a new dignity and new validity were given to the old indigenous methods. Ceylon cannot do better than follow the Chinese example. Neither the Minister nor the old pundits can expect the public to accept ayurveda wholesale without it being tested in the light of modern science. This is not to say that ayurveda does not have much to contribute towards the development of medical science. In China, it was found that certain diseases that had resisted treatment by Western medicine were successfully cured by indigenous medicines. Such successful drugs were immediately tested under modern clinical conditions and on the basis of such research the particular form treatment was adopted. A delegation to China consisting of ayurvedic and western trained doctors to study this development will probably go a long way towards a solution of the present crisis in Ayurveda.

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★ FOREIGN EMBASIES

★ UNP JOURNAL

Dr. Lenora in a statement regarding his resignation as Principal of the College of Indigenous Medicine indicated that apart from questions of policy in regard to the White Paper he objected to the appointment of a "certain person" to the Board. Who is the person and why did Dr. Lenora object to him so strenuously?

Investigations reveal that two vacancies arose on the Board recently. One was that he'd so far by Mr. K. Kanakarajnam who was there to represent "Tamil" ayurvedic interests. This place has now been filled by Buddhakita Thero of Kelaniya. The other vacancy was filled by a gentleman who is said to be an ayurvedic expert of "carbuncles". This person, in spite of the traditional knowledge he had "inherited" was unable, it is said, to pass the examinations held by the College of Indigenous Examinations. Ever since the time this gentleman was failed by the Board of Examiners and ever since his specialist knowledge about carbuncles was not recognised by Dr. Lenora and his colleagues, he was a bitter and virulent critic of the whole set-up at the College of Indigenous Medicine. His opposition was an open one and he had in fact carried it to the election platform.

Naturally, Dr. Lenora objected to his presence on the Board. What will the Minister do? What will the Government do? Will they hand over the College to the old world pundits who hate everything Western or endeavour to keep men like Dr. Lenora who seek to give a scientific basis to ayurvedic medicine.

CWE

Sometime ago *Tribune* had a reference to an unexpected change of auditors in the CWE. It was hinted that one of the reasons for a change was connected with the question of fees. Sherlock Holmes reports that if this were so it would be strange indeed, for the new auditors it would appear had charged very nearly double for an audit "on onion purchases and sales" (somewhere in the

region of Rs. 4000) and that this bill was paid without a demur. From this, an inference can be drawn the change of auditors was in no way connected with the question of fees.

Why were they changed? Is it that a European General Manager prefers a European firm of auditors? Where does the Permanent Secretary come into it? This is one of those mysteries that needs probing!

Embassies

There seem to be a great deal of lobbying and canvassing for ambassadorial posts abroad. Not long ago, Premier Bandaranaike indicated that Ceylon was lacking able diplomats.

I now understand that there is now a rush — an avalanche, in fact — of persons who want to be diplomats. Moscow and Peking are the plums that many are now seeking. Vacancies are also expected at Karachi and New Delhi at the end of the year, and Rangoon is already vacant. New embassies in Egypt and Canada cannot be ruled out, whilst a number of posts as Trade Commissioners in a large number of countries both inside and outside the Iron Curtain countries is likely to arise soon.

Whilst whispers that a number of M.P.'s would not mind turning diplomats (sacrificing their political careers) for the greater glory of Sri Lanka are going the rounds, it is said that a leading personality presently in Sinhalese newspaper journalism may walk away with one of the plums by being named as Ambassador to Peking. If this rumour does materialise, the Premier would have made one of the finest choices for the post.

But the Premier must be wary about appointing a retired medical officer of health to a post like Rangoon even though the person concerned may be a close relative of a Cabinet Minister.

UNP Journal

I read the *UNP Journal* nowadays for spicy and juicy gossip which the Editor of *Tribune* would shudder to publish in this paper.

From being the staid and stodgy news sheet of the ruling party, the *UNP Journal* is now a vitriolic opposition "rag" with a column of hot gossip usually with a touch of that inevitable ingredient — scandal.

The paper attacks the MEP Government from every possible angle — Right, Centre and even Left. As an Opposition paper, the *UNP Journal* has to attain maturity and finesse, but its spicy column makes exhilarating reading. The rest of the paper is full of the customary scissor and paste stuff which a vehemently Rightist journal normally flaunt. The paper is still plentifully complete with advertisements, but I wonder what the position would be when it comes to renewal of these contracts at the end of the year.

Is it True?

Is it True? is the heading of the column that hands out the hot gossip. Here is an example from the issue of June 15:

- "1. That the Leader of the Opposition Dr. N. M. Perera complained that Ministers were not in their seats at question time.
- "2. That he had informed the Minister of Health that he would ask her a question, but she had left just before the question was asked.
- "3. That the Minister of Health was not to blame because she had to go to temple at that time."

Lot of such spicy examples can be quoted, and it struck me that for much less in the UNP regime there was a TRIAL-AT-BAR!

Language and Local Govt.

1. Isn't the policy of the Government on the Language issue applicable to Local Authorities ?
2. Isn't the Gazette Notification issued under the hand of the Prime Minister himself applicable to Local Authorities ?
3. Are the officers in the L.G.S. not entitled to the safeguards afforded to their counterparts in the Govt. Service ?
4. The Minister of Finance as Head of the Public Service has assured the Public Servants that the rights and privileges they now enjoy will in no way be adversely affected by the switchover. Will the L.G.S.C. extend the same safeguards to officers in the L.G.S. or throw us to the wolves in the Local Authorities ?
5. The Choksy Commission Report says that on the Language issue Local Authorities should act within the framework of Govt. Policy. Can Local Authorities act in direct defiance of Govt. Policy ?
6. Can any Local Authority or any Member of Parliament ask for the transfer of officers arising out of the Language switch over ?
7. Will it not be a breach of the terms and conditions of appointment if the officers are to be retired or transferred on this account ?
8. Will the Local Authorities demanding the transfer of officers pay *full compensation* if the officers elect to retire ? Full compensation means salary and allowances they would have drawn for the period still left to them to serve together with the pension. Every Local Authority which demands the transfer of officers on the Language issue must be made to feel what it would cost them to give effect to their demands !
9. The L.G.S. has every right to demand protection of the Commission from the activities of the present day politicians who feel and act as if they can order the L.G.S.C. to do things as they (the politicians) want !
10. The Kurunegala Municipal Council has decided to ask the transfer of the Commissioner, the Accountant and other officers who are unable to carry on in Sinhalese. A deputation meet the Minister and the C.L.G., on 25-7-56. The date was arranged by the Deputy Mayor who is also the M.P. for Kurunegala.
11. Will the Language fanatics who according to the Prime Minister himself are the enemies of the Government succeed by their pressure moves in getting us transferred ?
12. In 1960 is the target for the switch over with probable extension but no time is given in Kurunegala M.C., They want immediate switch over.
13. Government has provided facilities for its officers to acquire proficiency in Sinhalese but what are the facilities for employes in Local Govt. Service ? NIL.
14. The cry for Sinhalese in Kurunegala M.C., is nothing but a political attempt on the part of a few members to shut out those who do not know Sinhalese such as the Muslims, Tamils or Burghers from contesting seats at the next elections.
15. Does not the Mayor's statement in Council "we are putting the cart before the horse" clearly show that he as the Chief Executive Officer feels that the immediate switchover to Sinhalese is impracticable ?

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HORROR COMICS

The ill-effects of "Comics" on teenagers was first detected in Great Britain eight years ago by a School Mistress, who considering the harm these books were playing upon the minds of the young, lost no time in pursuing with a firm determination the idea of finding ways and means of wiping out this obnoxious literature, which is the root cause of all evil and a menace to the rising generation. Her endeavours reached such widespread recognition and public approbation that other heads of schools even clergymen, (like Dr. Donald Soper one time head of the Methodist Church) and many others of repute cooperated with her, in her laudable efforts so much that fight against "Horror Comics" gained such nation-wide importance and prominence that in 1955. The Children and Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act was finally passed in Parliament. Similar legislation to ban the sale and inflow of these obscene books into Ceylon is a most pressing desiderata which cannot not be taken too lightly if our boys and girls are to be saved from being seduced or getting steeped in villainy.

Happily the state of affairs in Ceylon is not so bad as may be pictured, but, yet (it being an admitted fact) many parents do not at all realize the impairing harm that these books have on their children and the dangers they are exposed to once they are allowed to read them in their own sweet way, with the result that they are so much taken up with the "Comics" that there is no getting back from it and moreover it will then be rather too late make amends once the deadly parasite catches hold as is the case with "Horror Comics".

Parents are even prone to take things lightly and simply scoff at the idea of preventing their children from indulging in reading the "Comics" and they might as well say (as is always the case with a good many parents) "I and my wife both read *Horror Comics* so why not son and daughter?" This is a easy and insensible way of looking at thing and meeting the challenge. They simply forget that they are mature in age and could easily subdue the many temptations that "Horror Comics" offer the reader. But the same cannot be said as the young are concerned as the impulse in them and the emotion to act even at the very spur of the

moment is very much greater and riskier than that of their parents.

The remedy therefore of stemm'g the vicious practice of permitting children to read the "Comics" lies at the very door of our own homes, as well as the schools they attend. Hence it is the solemn duty of every parent who has the interest of their children at heart to see that the children are not allowed to have access to reading of this type of filthy literature, in as much as it is the paramount duty and obligation of each and every teacher to exercise strict vigilance and to keep a keen eye over their student and to see that this sort of disreputable reading matter does not get into their classes, as is the case in my instances.

It would be as well and in the interests of all school going children that the educational authorities issue directives to all heads of schools in the Island to take such steps as are expedient to prevent "Horror Comics" falling into the hands of their students and being read by them.

ARTHUR S. EATON

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Question Time

BY MERLIN

"Human nature is so strange that when you are on the top, every one is at your feet, but the moment you are down they all flee", said Sir John Kotelawela when he presided at the selection of Man and Woman of the Night at the St. Anne's College Carnival, Kurunegala

Observer 23/8

Were you not warned about the hangers-on who flocked to Kanda-wela? Were you not told that those who posed to be friends would lead to your downfall? Is it not an old truth that friends will not flatter, and that flatterers are dangerous?

★ ★ ★

"Mr. W. Dahanayake Minister of Education, wants the personnel of the Galle Rent Control Board removed because they are ki smen of Mr. J. R. Jayawardene."

Times 24/8

Is't this carrying things too far? Must every'da ge of government be followed up by reprisals? Should all Mr. Dahanayake's friends be removed from positions power if he is defeated at the next elections? Should persons be penalised simply because that are related to somebody?

★ ★ ★

"Ceylonese and Japanese Buddhists scholars will shortly start a seven-year project to complete an Encyclopedia on Buddhism in English, the Kyodo News Service reported yesterday."

Daily News, 24/8

What will the Sinhalese Only enthusiasts have to say now? Who are these Ceylonese Buddhists who dare agree to compile an Encyclopedia in English?

★ ★ ★

"Letters written in Sinhalese to Government Departments are piling up in ever increasing heaps because the Sinhalese educated staff in offices is hopelessly inadequate to deal with them"

Observer, 24/8

Why not ask Dr. Naganathan to withdraw his ban on Tamils knowing Sinhalese to help clear the arrears?

★ ★ ★

The Minister of Health, Mrs. Vimala Wijewardena, who participated in a transplanting ceremony at Talangama today said she would bring to the notice of the Cabinet immediately the immense difficulties people had to undergo due to the increase in the price of chillies, dhal potatoes and dryfish."

Morning Times, 27/8

Couldn't she persuade the Minister of Food to be less concerned about strikes in the harbour and devote more time to the problem of bringing down the prices of essential foodstuffs?

★ ★ ★

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Adlai Stevenson

continued from page 244

out for an FEPC at the end of the campaign, an act which helped turn part of the South against him. He has indicated he will not try that gambit again. The 1956 Stevenson is not likely to advertise such accessories but concentrate on the Solid Southern body.

The toned-down Stevenson resembles a more literate but more timid Eisenhower. He plumped hard for negotiations with the Russians after Eisenhower had already begun negotiating. He greeted the "Geneva Spirit" with a wan smile urging the nation to be "wary" (a line echoed last week by his supporter Sen. Lehman). Shocked at Eisenhower's fraternizing with Marshall Zhukov, Stevenson said:

"I, for one, had never expected to hear the President of the U.S. plead to a third-string Communist that the United States wants peace."

Second Guessing

In this early rounds in the fight for the nomination his political footwork seems to be worrying his handlers. Republican farm policy has left the farmers in a dangerous slump, angry, ready to listen to any politician who can stand firmly for high, rigid price supports that will guarantee a stable income. At Milwaukee and at Green Bay, Wis., earlier this month Stevenson muffed the ball by reverting to his 1952 position that high price supports were "not necessarily the permanent or the only answer." His farm-state lieutenants threw up their hands in horror. His rival, Gov. Averell Harriman of New York, was expected at a Democratic Midwest conference at Des Moines, Iowa, on Oct. 22. In a quick cover-up Stevenson dispatched a telegram on Oct. 21 to Des Moines asserting he was really in favour of high price props. Harriman came out for the high props, without second thoughts and most observers credited him with that round, despite Stevenson's sneak punch.

What labour will get out of Stevenson seems to depend on how high Harriman and perhaps other rivals are willing to bid for union support. In general the Democrats feel there is little point in making commitments to people who have

no place else to go, and 'don't' seem to be looking.

Stevenson's conservative look comes naturally. His origins lie in money and in milk. He was a director of the Chicago Natl. Bank and married into the Borden milk millions. Before entering public service he worked contentedly as asst. managing editor of the Republican Bloomington *Daily Pantagraph*. In his first Washington tour of Republicans: Agricultural Adjustment Administrator George Peek and Navy Secy. Frank Knox.

The Arvey Machine

Stevenson likes to claim his "amateur" status as a politician, but two years after he took office as Governor of Illinois, he said:

"Although I have not altered my views about the waste and inefficiency of patronage systems I understand better than ever before their relationship to the continuous operations of our indispensable two-party system."

Illinois Democratic boss Jack Arvey masterminded Stevenson's nomination in 1952 and last week was reportedly in his corner again. Stevenson was ready to ditch the "station-wagon set" of liberals for the more dependable "regulars" next year. In his home state Stevenson indulges in flaming promises and a gradualist approach to delivering on them. He campaigned for FEPC as a candidate but never quite got it passed as Governor.

His hankering for the South was evident during his governorship when his friendship with Byrnes of South Carolina bloomed.

He did Byrnes a good turn in those years by joining with him in the fight for the right of any state to publicize its relief rolls. Pointing to Illinois achievements in trimming public assistance, Stevenson said:

"We found some surprising things by chasing deserting husbands and looking under the bed."

What Flavor?

It is hard to put one's finger on Stevenson's appeal, although one knows it exists since he is currently leading the polls of Democratic hopefuls. Columnist Joseph Alsop analyzed it by comparing the voters to kids in an ice cream parlor:

"They know they want one kind of candidate rather than another, generally without being able to specify precisely who ... what the voters want for 1956 is a moderate flavored candidate with serious overtones. Stevenson is just that sort of a candidate. He is more moderate than Harriman. In a time, in sort, when the electorate seems to want vanilla, Stevenson looks like being vanilla."

The big question was whether the vanilla was artificial flavoring; an analysis indicated the answer was "Yes."



**HEADLINES
&
DEADLINES**

BY PUCK

**QUICK WORK IMPOSSIBLE—
C. P. DE SILVA**

Sunday Observer, 26/8
Nothing can be done without another term in Parliament

★
**DON'T LIVE WITH YOUR IN-
LAWS, SAYS JUDGE**

Times, 24/8
Minister of Housing to note

★
**JAYANTHI SONG LACKS FER-
VOUR**

Morning Times, 25/8

*Why not get Rajaratne to write
one?*

★
**FIVE EYE POST OF JUNIOR
MINISTER**

Morning Times, 25/8
Is that all?

★
**BOMBSHELL FOR BURGHERS
—NO PLACE FOR THEM HERE
IN FUTURE:— DAHANAYAKE**

Times, 24/8

*Reward for supporting Sinhalese
Only!*

★
**HOUSE AND SRAVASTI BARS
TO CLOSE ON OCTOBER 1**

Times, 24/8

An October Revolution!

**BAN ON NIGHT WORK FOR
WOMEN**

Times, 24/8

It was a long time coming!

★
**MORE SHIPS GIVE PORT
WIDE BERTH**

Morning Times, 28/8

Philip Ahoy!!

★
**REFINERY : GOVERNMENT
DECIDES ON TRINCO**

Morning Times, 28/8

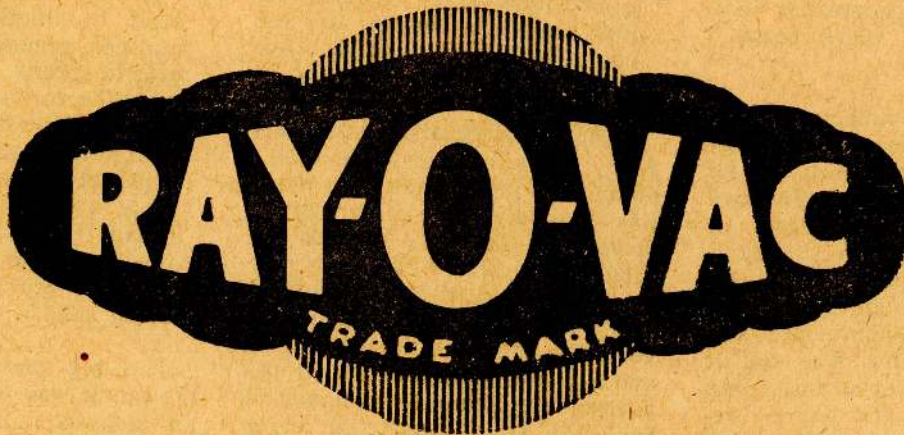
To oil the Tamils

★
**THREE MORE MERCANTILE
HOLIDAYS**

Daily News, 28/8

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Foreign Monopoly

continued from page first

oils (who, given the opportunity, might have become big producers) have gone to the wall owing to the activities of this Company. It may be said that even the producers, who have survived, exist only because Lever Bros does not want to crush all opposition lest there be a national outcry. For, there is no doubt that there is no Ceylonese firm which can stand competition with the mighty Lever Bros. should they decide to give battle.

UNILEVERS is said to be the biggest International monopoly besides which the biggest American combines look quite parochial. It controls over 500 different companies in over forty countries. In Ceylon it is LEVER BROS (CEYLON) LTD. Its share capital consists of 500,000 shares of Rs. 10 each: i.e. Rs. 5 million. Of these 500,000 shares, 499,974 shares are held by UNILEVER COMMONWEALTH OVERSEAS LTD. The remaining six shares are held by five British nationals (four of whom

are Directors of the local firm) and one Citizen of Ceylon (whether a distinguished one or one by registration it has not yet been able to ascertain) by the name of Sankera Iyer Mahadevan (also a Director).

LEVER BROS (CEYLON) LTD. dominates the production of a number of essential consumer commodities and as long as this Company is permitted to operate freely, Ceylonese cannot ever hope to capture even a sizable fraction of the soap, toilet and cooking oil business. This is a matter which the Government must immediately pay some attention. It is not enough to be careful about new foreign investments in Ceylon. Care must also be taken about foreign monopolies that already operate here and hinder the development of industry which nationals own and control.

WEEK by WEEK

continued from page 244

There is another matter which Government must pay some attention. Instruction at the University and the Medical College is "free" in so far as fees are concerned and every student who passes through a full medical course costs the taxpayer a substantial sum of money. Government must consider the laying down of a stipulation that every student who completes the course as a "free student" should serve the country in Government Service for at least a minimum period of ten years. Those who seek to launch out into private practice must either pay their fees or make good the sum which the State has spent on their training.

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