

# TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

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## WHOM IS J. R. FOOLING?

*The Hon. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene seems to be dominated by a ceaseless urge to get his friends and his country into a mess. In the six years he was Minister of Finance he succeeded in reducing this country to near bankruptcy thereby causing the resignation of his friend Mr. Dudley Senanayake.*

*Mr. Jayewardene, however, has one virtue. He has the supreme capacity to ignore reality and to paint rosy pictures of things that do not exist.*

The public cannot forget his many budget speeches and promises which proved abortive: his much boosted Six Year Plan which was no Plan at all and which fizzled out long before it was started: and above all, the Arabian Night Tales he weaved into his famous 1952 Budget Speech.

Within a month of that speech, the country discovered for the first time that the Exchequer was empty. It is even believed in responsible quarters that the Prime Minister and the Cabinet were in the dark about the true state of affairs until after the Budget Speech. In retrospect, it would seem, that Mr. Dudley Senanayake won the General Ele-

ctions of May 1952 under false pretences, at least as far as the finances were concerned.



press headlines on the "sacking" of Dr. W. G. Wickremasinghe — an affair which does not rebound to the credit of Mr. J. R. Jayewardene.

### Folly

It was when Mr. Dudley Senanayake found out the truth in or about August 1952 that he hastened to conclude the Rice-Rubber Agreement with Red China to bring a little relief to the strained finances of the country. It must be remembered, in this connection, that Mr. J. R. Jayewardene did his utmost to prevent this Trade Agreement.

It has been the misfortune of this country that Mr. J. R. Jayewardene was not relieved of all Ministerial responsibilities as soon as the hoax he had played upon the entire nation in his Budget Speech of 1952 was discovered. The responsibility for this must rest squarely on Mr. Dudley Senanayake. He is probably a sadder but wiser man to-day having paid the price for his folly in retaining in his Cabinet a Minister who had no compunction about misleading his colleagues and the country.

### N. U. Jayawardena

It must not be forgotten that it was whilst Mr. J. R. Jayewardene was Minister of Finance that Mr. N. U. Jayawardena was pushed up by quick stages from being Assistant Exchange Controller to the high post of Deputy Governor and then Governor of the Central Bank.

It is now known that Mr. Dudley Senanayake was not enamoured with the prospect of appointing

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# CO-EXISTENCE

(From Our Special Correspondent)

London, July 16, 1954

Here in London, the main talking point over the last week or so has been Anglo-American relations in the light of Sir Winston Churchill's and Mr. Eden's visit to the United States. As the Washington communique contained little beyond the usual platitudes about a better understanding of each other's viewpoints, Sir Winston's statement about the talks in the House of Commons on Monday was eagerly looked forward to.

However, those who had hoped for further elucidation on what was agreed on in Washington were sorely disappointed. The Prime Minister's statement revealed only two new facts: that the H-bomb had figured prominently in the discussions—that in fact his anxiety over the lack of information on that subject had driven him across the ocean; and that the question of China's admission to the United Nations had "played no noticeable part" in the talks.

To this he ominously added that while the British Government still believed that the Peking Government should eventually take China's seat in the U. N. the time was not yet ripe for consideration of the issue.

## Apprehension

On this point, considerable apprehension had been voiced in the Sunday press—that is even before the Prime Minister made his statement in the Commons. His remarks on his arrival that the talks had done much to dispel American "nightmares" as to British policy had aroused well-founded suspicions that the British Ministers had given way on this question.

On the other hand, the violent campaign whipped up by leading U. S. Congressmen after the Washington talks could have meant that at last the U. S. Government had given way to the British point of view. Sir Winston justified his support of the American line in this matter by saying that neither the Korean nor the Indo-Chinese problem had yet been solved and that even in the event

of solutions to these two problems being found, China must first be given time to prove her good faith. These arguments were ably demolished by Mr. Attlee, who pointed out that failure to admit China to the U. N. was one of the main stumbling blocks to a settlement of the Korean problem.

In the foreign affairs debate in the Commons on Wednesday, he used, for him unusually strong language attacking U. S. policy concerning China, condemning Formosa and while emphasizing his and the official Labour Party's hatred for Communism, yet putting in quite some praise for what the Peking Government had done for the Chinese peasants. A speech of this kind from the leader not only of the Labour Party but also of its Right wing shows how the wind is blowing at least inside the labour movement.

## Not confined to Left

Altogether, criticism of American policy on the Chinese and other issues is no longer confined to the Left in this country. For quite a while now, leading articles in such respectable and staunch anti-Communist papers like the "Manchester Guardian" have criticised the conduct of U. S. foreign policy and President Eisenhower's lack of leadership in a manner, which only a few months ago would have been regarded as sheer heresy or worse. And most other papers have echoed these attacks to a greater or lesser degree. There is very little attempt now to cover up Anglo-American differences, where these exist (as over southeast Asia), while not so long ago any such divergencies were presented as mere details, as mere differences of approach to a common objective.

There is no doubt that the emergence of the "Colombo" countries and India in particular, as a factor in world politics no longer to be ignored have played a great part in strengthening Britain's hand against American demands at least where Asian matters are concerned. No politician and no paper now argues the British case without bringing in some reference to

the need for taking into account the wishes of the Colombo countries.

## Co-Existence

This brings us back to the Washington conference. On the face of it, at least, President Eisenhower made one counter-concession in return for British acquiescence in excluding China from the U. N. That is that the President apparently agreed to Sir Winston's preference for "peaceful co-existence" with the Communist world. Quite a considerable concession that!

If the British Prime Minister has really succeeded in converting the American President to this idea and away from the former American aim of seeing the "enslaved" countries in the East liberated, it would lift a tremendous burden from the minds of those Europeans who had given this enough thought to realize that such "liberation" could only be achieved through war.

In any case, there are many signs that on certain matters the British Government is facing the fact now that blind adherence to American policy could involve this country in a war which would lead to her annihilation and that it is taking steps to disentangle itself. The A—and H—bombs are probably the most potent factors. England being the main base from which U. S. bombers would take off to deliver these bombs would also be the first target for retaliation. Sir Winston, whatever else he is, is a good patriot and must therefore prevent war at all costs—even at the cost of being called an "appeaser" by his American friends.

There are those in this country, of course, who see in recent moves by Sir Winston and Mr. Eden the hands of the skilled diplomatists, who in an endeavour to allay the fears of the people only give the appearance of being more conciliatory than the Americans but who, nevertheless, are driving in the same direction as the U. S. only in a more gradual way. They point to these Ministers' backing of the Americans' determination to see Germany rearmed—a policy which cannot but frustrate any attempt at "peaceful co-existence" with Russia. But this is so vast a subject that it must be left for another time.

# BOOK-BURNING

A little over a year ago, when the all-powerful Senator from Wisconsin started his campaign of cleansing the U. S. I. S. Libraries overseas of all "communistic" literature, the terrified Librarians, to be on the safe side, began removing from their shelves even books like Whittaker Chambers' "Witness" and Dulles' own "War and Peace." A large number of volumes were actually burnt and a still larger number withdrawn from circulation. Progressive opinion in the U.S. was profoundly shocked and responsible newspapers strongly criticized the State Department for this policy of book-burning.

## New Ideas

On that occasion, President Eisenhower, in a memorable letter addressed to the American Library Association's annual conference, had this to say :

"... A democracy smugly disdainful of new ideas would be a sick democracy. A democracy chronically fearful of new ideas would be a dying democracy.

".....we must in these times be intelligently alert to the grave dangers of meeting fanaticism with ignorance. For, in order to fight totalitarians....there are some zealots who... would adopt a strangely unintelligent course. They would try to defend freedom by denying freedom's friends the opportunity of studying communism in its entirety—its plausibilities, its falsities, its weaknesses.

"As it is an ancient truth that freedom cannot be legislated into existence, so it is no less obvious that freedom cannot be censored into existence, and any who act as if freedom's defenses are to be found in suppression and suspicion and fear confess a doctrine that is alien to America."

## Sir John

Sir John, who the other day at Kochchikade proudly stated "I ordered that all communist liter-

ature that came into Ceylon be burnt at the customs.." may for a moment ponder over the words of President Eisenhower quoted above.

It is ironical that Sir John should have set up a board of censors to scrutinize all incoming literature at the very moment when the P. E. N., the world literary association, at its International congress held in Amsterdam on June 21st., "unanimously passed a resolution protesting against any ban being placed on the importation of any literary work."

Last January, two London publishers were fined £2,000 each and sent to prison for six months for publishing obscene literature. The publications concerned were withdrawn from circulation and ordered to be destroyed. Yet, several of these titles are readily available in book-stalls in Colombo today. Why is the Prime Minister, who is so concerned that the "moral tone" of the Ceylonese should not be lowered, so tolerant to the importation and sale of so much filth and poison (no other words can adequately describe these glossy-covered magazines, novels and comics) ?

The *Times of Ceylon* on July 14 reported that :

"Stacks of Communist literature which were confiscated by the Customs in recent weeks will be burnt.

"This decision was taken by a special committee yesterday which also decided to introduce strict curbs on the importation of Communist literature into Ceylon.

"In future only persons who are genuinely interested in reading Communist literature for academic purposes will be allowed to import Red literature. Any bulk imports which are meant for resale or distribution for Communist propaganda purposes will be confiscated."

We publish an article from a Correspondent on this question of book banning and book burning. Communism cannot be suppressed by bans. Such prohibitions only fan the flame of curiosity.

## Financial Aid ?

Sir John alleges that the proceeds from the sale of books from China and the Soviet Union go to reimburse the funds of certain political parties. Whoever advised the Prime Minister on this appears to be

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".....book-burning cannot suppress Communism....."

# ALBERT EINSTEIN

ALBERT EINSTEIN, one of the intellectual giants of mankind, was 75 years old on March 14.

Born in Germany in 1879, as a child he showed no signs of being an infant prodigy. Indeed he was backward in learning to talk and his parents feared he was abnormal.

At 16 he failed the entrance examination to the Swiss Federal Polytechnic School in Zurich.

On the basis of our present school entrance system, it may well be that the youthful Einstein would not be considered sufficiently intelligent to obtain admission to a grammar school.

## Relativity

Yet it has been Einstein who has probed more deeply than any of his contemporaries into some of the most fundamental problems of science.

In the 19th century many scientists believed that all the fundamental laws of nature were already known. The future task of science was to fill in the details.

Few suspected that many of the existing theories rested on very insecure foundations.

Among the defects of these theories was the supposition that space and time were absolute, something like the grid lines ruled on a map.

The first shattering blow to such ideas came in 1891, when the famous Michelson and Morley experiment showed that it was impossible to measure the speed of light relative to absolute space.

The problems which this presented baffled the great scientists of the day. The correct answer was discovered by Einstein in 1905.

His idea was that space and time could only be understood in terms of moving bodies, in terms of real happenings. Absolute space and time, divorced from matter do not exist.

## Atomic

A famous equation based on Einstein's theory is the basic equation of atomic bombs. It is also the equation which shows how all man's requirements for fuel and power can be met.

In all his many contributions to science, Einstein's approach is always that the processes of nature can be mastered by man and understood in a rational way.

ONE MAY disagree with some of Einstein's philosophic ideas, just as one may disagree with some of his ideas on Zionism or world government, but one cannot fail to be moved by the profundity of his scientific thought and by the sincerity of his humanism.

In the period before and during the First World War Einstein was a resolute opponent of imperialism and of the militarisation of German science.

The Nazis attacked Einstein's theories as "Jewish science" and claimed that they were intended to give support to Bolshevism. His books on the theory of relativity were publicly burned in front of the Berlin State Opera House.

## In Exile

Driven from his native Germany, he sought refuge in the United States in 1933. But he did not escape from persecution.

In September 1950 Congressman John E. Rankin described him as an "old faker" with a "Communist front" record.

In April 1951 he was "named" by the Un-American Activities Committee as a supporter of "subversive organisations." There have even been stories of renewed book-burnings.

THE DEVELOPMENT of atomic weapons has been of great concern to Einstein. It was he who first wrote to President Roosevelt in 1939, warning that the Nazis were probably developing atomic weapons and suggesting that such research should be initiated in the U. S.

## Opposed Cold War

Later he stated that if he had known the consequences he would have had nothing to do with the atom bomb program. Again and again he has explained the unspeakable disasters which will ensue if atomic warfare takes place.

He has resolutely opposed U. S. cold-war policies. He states that the policy of "security through superior military power" has led to:

"the concentration of tremendous financial power in the hands of the military; militarization of youth; close supervision of the loyalty of citizens . . . . . ; intimidation of independent political thinking; the indoctrination of the public by radio, press and school; a growing restriction of the range of public information under pressure of military secrecy."

## Fought Witch-hunt.

He has unflinchingly opposed the witch-hunt. He has said that anyone called before Congressional committees ought to refuse to testify even if it means jail.

He has always supported the persecuted and oppressed. Before the Rosenbergs were judicially murdered he wrote to President Truman: "My conscience compels me to urge you to commute the death sentences."

Above all he has been a resolute fighter for peace. He said:

"We scientists believe that what we and our fellow men do or fail to do within the next few years will determine the fate of our civilization.

"And we consider it our task untiringly to explain this truth . . . . . and to work . . . . . for understanding and ultimately agreement between peoples and nations of different views."

World peace would be more secure if more scientists were to endorse Einstein's words.

# MR. DESAI MAKES THINGS

Ever since his arrival in Ceylon as High-Commissioner for India, Mr. C. C. Desai has been successful in keeping himself in the news on the front-pages of the publications of the two large newspaper combines in this country. In this, he is a worthy rival of his old Cambridge friend, Premier Sir John Kotelawala, who has the supreme capacity of stealing the headlines everytime.

Mr. Desai is not merely an adept in making himself popular with newspapermen, but it would appear he knows how to rush New Delhi and Colombo into signing an Agreement that has done untold damage to the friendly relations between the neighbouring countries. It will be a long time before the

## WORSE

[ By Our Political Correspondent ]

net and the U.N.P. to accept it on the basis of unilateral interpretations intended "to bolster up" the declining prestige of the United National Party.

All the Opposition Parties, including the Sri Lanka Freedom Party of Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike (who has held extreme views on the questions of Ceylon Indians from 1934), have condemned the Agreement. They have stated in no uncertain terms on the floor of the House of Representatives and outside that this Agreement was a

## Tri Sinhala

Racial chauvinist and neo-fascist elements have seized upon the confusion and uncertainty created by the Agreement to launch a bitter anti-Indian campaign which is fast acquiring the scope of a anti-Tamil program. Slogans calling for the boycott of Indian shops, secret circulars threatening death, leaflets rousing communal passions are now flooding the country.

It has been stated in Parliament that the American Embassy is encouraging this movement and that it is indirectly financing this campaign. The Americans could not have wished for a better opportunity.

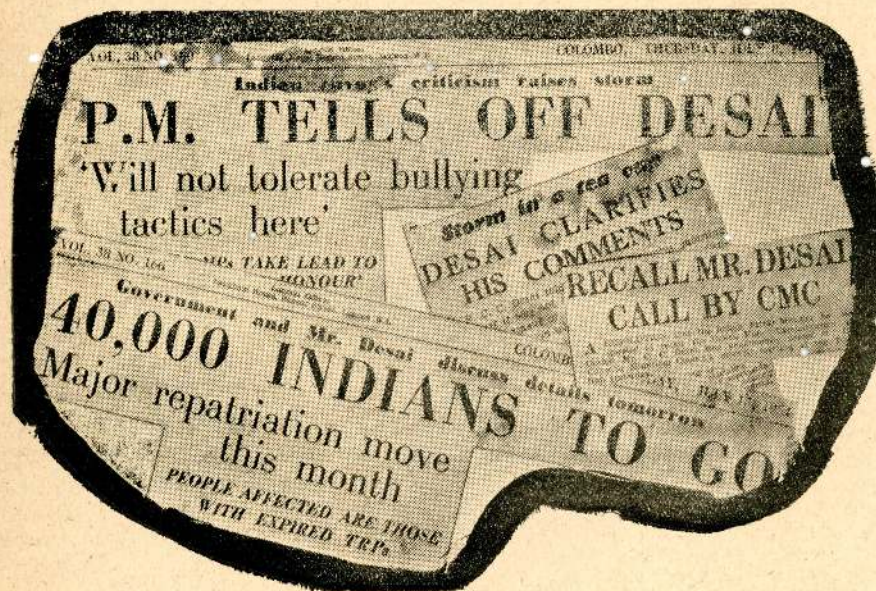
And it is tragic that this opportunity has been presented on a silver plate to the Americans by the impetuous and foolhardy diplomacy of the Indian High Commissioner in Ceylon.

## Dead Letter

Within six months of the signing of the Pact, all persons except Sir John and Mr. Desai had come to the conclusion that the Agreement was a dead letter. The differences of opinion regarding the stateless, the number and manner of representation, the fact the registration of citizens under the Indian and Pakistani Citizenship Act was being delayed and obstructed and a host of other matters, had all contributed to the growing opinion that the Agreement was only fit for the dust heap.

Judging from press comments, it would appear that in India, too, opinion has grown steadily against the Pact. The sedate and conservative *Times of India*, published in Bombay, commented editorially on July 3 and concluded with these words: "... In the light of what has happened, there is no use in pretending that the January agreement is still in force. Indeed the Indian Government must make it clear to the authorities in Ceylon that as they have already repudiated the agreement this country

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harm done by Desai's lightning-and-thunder cum filmstar diplomacy is rectified. How much more harm he will do during the rest of his stay here will be hard to foretell.

## The Agreement

The Nehru-Kotelawala Agreement, undoubtedly Mr. Desai's handiwork, has not solved any of the problems centring round the existence of the Ceylon Indian community in this country. The Pact has satisfied nobody except Sir John Kotelawala and a few of his friends. He has been able to "persuade" the Cabi-

present (from Mr. Desai) to Sir John Kotelawala to stabilise his position within the U.N.P. and in the country.

Even though the U.N.P. officially has endorsed the Pact, dissatisfaction among U.N.P. followers and adherents, arising from the fact that a large number of vital matters have been left vague and nebulous, has given rise to a most dangerous phenomenon in the form and shape of the Tri Sinhala Peramuna Movement.

# MR. DESAI MAKES THINGS WORSE

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can no longer abide by its terms. By its short sighted policies the Ceylonese Government has created the very situation to avert which the Nelru-Kotelawala Agreement was signed....."

## The Furore

In spite of all this, the Kotelawala Government proceeded to take steps to implement one clause in the agreement, namely the providing of representation for registered citizens in separate communal electorates. Against the wish of the Indian Government and the representations of the Ceylon Indians, the Government rushed through a Bill fixing the number of seats as four (New Delhi suggested six, and the Ceylon Democratic Congress wanted the seven which they held in the old Parliament.

Whilst the debate on the Bill was due to take place, Mr. Desai created a newspaper furore. He gave an interview to the *Ceylon Observer* on the evening of July the 7th. The paper in a banner headline declared INDIA WILL TREAT PACT AS NULL AND VOID and contained a report of

a statement by Mr. Desai. In the course of this, Mr. Desai was reported to have said: "The Ceylon Government now has gone back on its word and proposes to prolong the period of communal representation .....

the Indo-Ceylon Agreement would be considered by India to have been violated by what he calls the 'dishonourable action' of the Ceylon Government."

## Premier Rebukes

This interview was the subject of a question in the House at adjournment and Sir John Kotelawala declared: "... the conduct of the diplomat in question was unfortunate in that he little realises he lives here in this country and that he is liable to be removed without notice. Of course, I can only interpret his words as an attempt to interfere in our domestic affairs ... I will not tolerate interference not only by diplomats but even by other countries. The only excuse we can give India is that she is new to diplomacy and in the selection of her diplomats. With regard to Mr. Desai's utterance, the only thing I can say is that he must be suffering from a mental aberration.

"I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that I will tolerate neither his action nor the action of his country to bully us to do what they want." Brave words indeed, and the *Ceylon Daily News* next morning filled its front page with the headline "P. M. TELLS OFF DESAI ....."

But by afternoon, the *Observer* described the incident as a **STORM IN A TEA CUP**, and stated that Mr. Desai had seen the Premier in the morning and in clarifying his views had explained that he

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## SOVIET ATOMIC CANNON

FRANKFURT June 22: The first Russian atomic cannon, claimed to be bigger and better than the American atomic cannon, has arrived in the East German province of Mecklenberg, Frankfortes Neue Presse said to day.

The new weapon, first of the nine atomic cannons to be stationed in East Germany came from the Soviet Union, by train in a special wagon with a modern artillery unit.

The cannon's calibre was larger than the American 280 millimetre gun and was reported to weigh more than 110 tons. The American cannon weighs 85 tons.

The Soviet gun's range of 45 kilometres (about 28 miles) was claimed to be greater than the American, but the American gun's range of 20 miles was reported earlier this year to be capable of an increase to about 30 miles by using a smaller calibre tube.

The U. S. army announced in February that a second battery of six American atomic cannons was being sent to Europe to supplement the battery established there last autumn.

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# BRITISH PRESS COMMENTS

## U. S. ARMED REBELS

The U. S. has gravely undermined the authority and prestige of the U. N. by assisting Col. Armas to invade Guatemala and then preventing Guatemala's complaint from being taken up by the Security Council while that country was attacked by outside forces and its lawfully elected government overthrown.

The part played by the U. S. Ambassador, John E. Peurifoy, gunman-diplomat, in the internal affairs of Guatemala, should be an object lesson to all Asian countries in the *modus operandi* of the cloak and dagger war so successfully practiced by the U. S. It also gives an insight into the real nature of the activities of some of the U. S. Ambassadors abroad.

### Fresh Evidence

Fresh evidence, now available, indicates clearly that it was the U. S. which engineered the attack on Guatemala. According to a report appearing in *Time* magazine (12. 7. 54): "Honduras openly granted bases to Castillo Armas, an act the U. S. could have stopped with a frown. Castillo Armas got money; the revolution must have cost well over \$ 1,000,000.—perhaps as much as \$5,000,000. He got airplanes, four F47 fighters and two C-47 cargo planes. He also got expert pilots to fly them." No responsible American authorities have so far denied that Col. Armas was armed by the U.S.

"No matter", the same report continues, "who furnished the arms to Castillo Armas it was abundantly clear that U. S. Ambassador John E. Peurifoy masterminded most of the changes once Castillo Armas began his revolt." The responsible London *Times* goes further and alleges that "... Mr. Peurifoy... has done much behind the scenes to end the

fighting and to overthrow the Arbenz regime..."

### Blow to Peace

"If a simple definition of armed aggression is required," states a correspondent in a letter appearing in the London *Times*, "it could not be better given than as an army, trained and armed within one country, moving across a border into another country to overthrow that country's Government. That is what has happened and it is also what the Security Council virtually refuses to deal with. The moral blow to the ideal of peace by collective action is as great as that administered by the Hoare-Laval proposals, while the precedent set may well be disastrous."

"Under its (U. S.) leadership", comments the *Manchester Guardian* in a leading article, "the Security Council has run away from the issue by refusing on Friday even to hear the Guatemalan complaint... (The U. N. Charter) provides a clear and overriding right for members to bring disputes to the Council's notice, and a clear obligation on the Council to look into alleged breaches of the peace." Referring to the statement made by Mr. Lodge, the U. S. representative, the *Manchester Guardian* continues "he (Mr. Lodge) was saying... quite simply that what was sauce for Korea is not sauce for Guatemala."

### Damaging

"The aircraft that brought about the downfall of two Presidents in one week", states the *Economist* of 3rd. July, "were undoubtedly operating from foreign soil, and the Arbenz Government's appeal for inquiry and protection was a valid one. The inaction which that appeal encountered was a damaging

episode in the record of the U. N...."

In the meanwhile the jails in Guatemala continue to be filled beyond capacity with political prisoners whose numbers have already passed the 2,000 mark. The new military junta, according to the Washington Correspondent of the London *Times*, are "going to reverse nearly all that had been done by the (democratic) Arbenz regime. The junta has also announced that it will suspend... the national land law under which Arbenz redistributed large holdings."

One of the decrees issued by the new junta "limits voting powers to literates" only. Since Guatemala's illiteracy rate is estimated to be 73% it is clear that virtually all the peasants and workers will be excluded from participating in the elections due very shortly. The verdict of the 17% - landowners and others representing vested interests - will no doubt be acclaimed as a victory for the new regime.

### STATELESS NOW

Mr. Dorasamy of Waralupitiya estate in Puwakpitiya area had applied for Ceylon citizenship and after investigation, his name was gazetted. He was recently called upon by the Commissioner to come to Colombo to take the certificate of registration. The Commissioner, however, refused to issue the certificate as he could not take the oath.

Thus with all the qualification and after having passed through the needle's eye of rigorous test, Mr. Dorasamy could not become a Ceylon citizen, his only fault being he was dumb.

- BOOK-BANNING
- DEMOCRACY OR NEO-FASCISM ?
- CAUSE FOR DEJECTION

## THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

### The Ceylon Daily News

registered a protest that the book-banning by the Customs "was being handled in a thoroughly unintelligent and ham-handed" manner. It was quick to point out in the same editorial that there was a need "to prevent the local Communist Party from relying on import and sale of literature from Communist countries as one source of funds for its own subversive purposes. The Government has equally the right to prevent the entry of literature which is clearly seditious and subversive."

But, *The Daily News* complained that "to place a ban on literature beyond this point, merely because it expresses heterodox opinions, is to infringe on one of the fundamental freedoms of thought." Strange words from Lake House vocabulary. In the best McCarthy style, "Lake House has for many months, particularly from the January of this year, been campaigning against what it called "red subversion." This campaign of Lake House was no more than an echo of the Dulles-McCarthy propaganda machine.

Unfortunately, the Government succumbed to the Lake House campaign and has brought in unnecessary and stupid restrictions on the import of books. How flimsy the reason about profits accruing to the Communist Party is shown by no less a person than a great anti-communist crusader Robert Trumbull, *New York Times* correspondent in New Delhi. This gentleman has often been to Ceylon and during the 1953 Hartal was in Colombo to dig out evidence about a Red Plot. If Mr. Trumbull is satisfied, as shown in an article published elsewhere in this issue, that the Communist Party derives little or no profit from the sale of imported literature, then it would be almost impossible for anyone to prove the contrary.

But, apart from this, the banning of books and burning of books is something which no sane person can support. Such methods have never succeeded in liquidating an ideology. In the Middle Ages, the burning of books and the persecution of "heretics" by the Inquisition did not succeed in checking growth of Protestantism. In more recent times, not all the books burnt by Adolf Hitler succeeded in wiping out Communism.

If Sir John is interested in checking the spread of communist ideology, he should resort to methods other than book-banning and book-burning. He should offer an equally positive ideology and a programme better than what Communism could suggest. Instead of this, to launch on a campaign in the manner of the Grand Inquisition of the Dark Ages is undoubtedly the result of atrociously bad advice by counsellors who cannot see beyond their nose. Sir John will do well not to take advice from Lake House and others of the same persuasion. Such advice will soon make Sir John the most unpopular man in the country.

### No Cause For Dejection

In the first public speech as Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke assured his listeners at Wesley College that there was no reason for despondency although the Government was reducing expenditure in certain spheres. He added that he firmly believed that this country was proceeding on lines that will give children a chance of happiness.

It is unfortunate that the first speech of the new Governor-General was an apologia for the present policies of the Government at a time when the policy is under fire both within the U.N.P. and outside. A Governor-General should, as far as possible, keep out of discussions of a controversial nature and certainly not set out to defend narrow

party policies which should be left to party propagandists.

The *Times of Ceylon* highlighted this speech in front-page banner headlines. The public, however, find it difficult to believe the fairy tale that there is no cause for dejection. All around them is growing evidence of increasing misery, hardship and suffering. In these circumstances, it is a little hard on the public to ask them to accept the view that all is well with the state of Sri Lanka.

A fresh cause for dejection and despondency has been added by the fact that Sir Oliver Goonetilleke has not yet chosen to disclose his assets in the manner of President Eisenhower and President Magsaysay, particularly after it has been shown that in one year Sir Oliver was permitted to take out of this country over four and a half lakhs of rupees.

The public has also been surprised by the appointment of his daughter as the Private Secretary to the Governor-General. Sir Oliver was undoubtedly well within his rights to make such an appointment, but at this stage in the country when tension is mounting the appointment is bound to have unfortunate repercussions.

It is well to remember that the Premier gave an assurance in the House of Representatives on July 9 "that if a *prima facie* case is made out against Sir Oliver, even though he may be Governor General, I shall ask him to go through his trial in the same way as the Governor of the Central Bank." The Prime Minister also stated that the Attorney-General had advised him that the Governor-General "was not a King," that he was merely a representative of the Queen and if "he is called upon to give evidence in any criminal case in our courts or in a commission he must give evidence."



# BLACK CADILLAC

The Prime Minister's Private Secretary, Mr. P. Nadesan, has been seen riding about in a black Cadillac car. Occasionally, he is seen in Boustead's chief Mr. Mahendran's yellow Buick car. But persons who know about these matters tell me that Mr. Nadesan is now the owner of the black Cadillac. And in the smartest circles the following questions are being asked:-

When was this black Cadillac bought? Was it before or after the Government bought the super Cadillac used by the Queen for the use of the P. M.? What was the price paid by Government for the Cadillac used by the Queen? And what was the price paid by Mr. Nadesan for his black Cadillac? Was Mr. Nadesan afforded any special concessions in the price of the black Cadillac? If so, for what reason?

These are certainly interesting questions and I hope somebody will be able to answer the same for the benefit of my readers.

## Airport Ball

A great deal of unnecessary fuss has been raised about a "barbecue" at the airport function in honour of the new Minister Monty Jayawickrema. A picture published in all the Lake House journals showed the Premier endeavouring to carve up a roasted calf. He was surrounded by a bevy of non-national beauties.

This picture seems to have upset the religious and other susceptibilities of a large number of people. So much so, that the Political Correspondent of the *Daily News* in last Saturday's column thought it necessary to explain why his paper had published the picture. It was the duty

of papers to publish the snappiest pictures, he sermonised, forgetting that Lake House has a reputation for using only such news and pictures as it suits its current policy. The Political Correspondent decreed that "the blame must be laid elsewhere, on those who do not think out the political repercussions of creatings settings like that".

The Political Correspondent further went on to admonish the Prime Minister that he should "realise the political dangers of being involved in incidents like these." He further warned the Premier to be careful of a "few women who apparently plot and plan to thrust themselves into his company publicly—no doubt their insensitive husbands have reasons of their own to be pleased seeing their wives wriggling coyly among the powers that be."

Now, who's gossiping? Not long ago, Lake House preached that "other papers" were gossiping when they wrote about matters of public importance about public men—matters which Lake House for some reason or other thought fit to blackout (until the truth like murder was out!) To practice what one preaches is some thing that Lake House should learn.

## Decoration and Furniture

To talk about other peoples' wives at such functions is undoubtedly gossip, but it is not gossip to ask whether any public money was spent in connection with this purely private show.

Persons interested in checking up whether the tax payer's money is being wasted should investigate how much public money was spent in connection with the func-

tion. Not on the roasted calf and the drinks, but on such expenses as having the hall re-painted twice in the last week, new furniture and the like.

Such investigators might find out if a certain contractor, who was called upon to paint the building twice in three days in order to get the correct shade of colour, had instructions to purchase all materials from one very big European firm of wholesalers. It might be worthwhile to find out just how much the bill of this contractor amounted to. Was it in the region of about nearly half a lakh of rupees?

Have these same contractors re-painted certain rooms in Queen's House recently in colours more pleasing to the new Governor-General? How much did this job cost?

And, finally, were tenders called for any of these jobs?

## Indian Press

"Tribune's" New Delhi Correspondent complained last week that neither the P. T. I. nor the other Indian Correspondents in Ceylon had sent a good coverage about the Desai episode to India. This is not the only thing that the PTI as well as other Indian Press Correspondents in Ceylon have not kept Indian readers informed about.

I can think of a good many matters which have been "blacked out" for the benefit of the Indian public ever since the present High Commissioner for India has come to Ceylon. Mr. Desai has a magic way with Indian Press Correspondents. They toe his line blindly

(Continued on page 10)

# BLACK CADILLAC

Continued from page 9

irrespective of the realities of the situation in this country.

Recently, the Indian correspondents have sent the most meagre reports in a most belated sort of manner about episodes that have shaken this country. I refer to the N. U. Jayawardena affair as well as the public outcry against the new Governor-General. Even the references in the Parliament were evidently blacked out.

Such press correspondents can endeavour to excuse themselves by saying that they sent the messages but that they were not used by their offices, but this is the lamest excuse that can be trotted out. Matters that I have mentioned make such good copy that any newspaper office would have pounced upon them. Papers in England, Singapore and Hong Kong have flashed the news in a big way, but Indian papers were badly served by their correspondents here.

I do not know why these correspondents have acted in this manner, but one explanation that has been offered is that they are fastened so securely to the apron strings of Mr. Desai that they have lost all initiative. I do not know

if this explanation is correct, but I do know that Mr. Desai has a soft corner for the Government of Sir John Kotelawala.

But, there is no doubt that these press correspondents have done a great disservice to the Indian reading public. By inadequate and often misleading reports fashioned to suit the High Commission, they have been responsible to some extent for the growth of misunderstanding between the two countries.

## Cribbed

The *Daily News* seems to have got "cribbing" on its mind in a big way. On Monday, it bragged that it had caught a Minister "cribbing" from some Government reports and his own preface to the same reports in a speech he broadcast over Radio Ceylon.

Exposures are necessary to keep a Government on its toes, but the kind of exposures that seems to please Lake House do not interest the public. What does it matter, if a Minister made a speech composed of some government reports as long as they were relevant? To criticise him for this is the most childish kind of picking holes.

The only other kind of exposures Lake House seems to be interested in, it is being freely whispered about, is when a near relative of a Lake House higher-up is thrown out of job. I understand that it is likely that one such exposure campaign might soon be the cause of one of the most sensational lawsuits of recent times.

## Tailpiece

The *Guardian* is undoubtedly doing a good job of work, but in its enthusiasm sometimes claims more than it should. When the N. U. Jayawardena story broke, the *Guardian* was tempted to claim the credit for breaking the story but later corrected itself by stating that it was the first *daily* paper to do so. ("*Tribune*" broke the story a few days before the *Guardian* did.)

On July 16, *Guardian* also tended to give the impression that it was the only paper that had asked for the inquiry against N. U. Jayawardena to be held in public and in support published a photostat of its issue of July 7 when it did make such a demand.

The "*Tribune*" made the demand that the BIG FISH should face a three-man (and not a one-man) Commission and that the inquiry should be in public as early as June 26. It will not hurt the *Guardian* to give credit where credit is due, but it will undoubtedly hurt its prestige if it continues to make claims it cannot sustain.

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# THE GREATEST LOVE

"The Greatest Love" at the Savoy, a Rossellini-directed film, starring Ingrid Bergman, is quite disappointing. It does not live up to the reputation of Rossellini as a first-rate director nor does it maintain the high standards of the post-war Italian cinema. As for Miss Bergman she is given a role to play which is theatrical and unconvincing in the extreme.

The story is about a highly sensitive woman who loses her child under tragic circumstances and finds consolation for her grief in indiscriminate acts of charity and love. Her family and an obtuse unresponsive society fail to appreciate this, confusing it with a growing tendency to insanity, and succeed in putting her away in a

house of observation. There she experiences the pedantry of modern psychological research and the film ends on a sequence of despair giving the audience a glimpse of the strange, distorted forms of the imagination her mind will soon enter upon.

One searches in vain for the Rossellini skill and artistry, and finds only the usual sentimental cliches so dear to the melodramatic mind. The film is not even relieved by occasional flashes of humour and wit.

One can only hope that Rossellini's next film will return to those qualities of genuine warmth, humanity and social realism which distinguish the great Italian film.

W. M.

## Mr. Desai Makes Things Worse

Continued from page 6

had no intention of interfering in the affairs of the country. With great alacrity the *Daily News* commented the next day editorially and declared that the incident was closed with Mr. Desai's explanation to the Premier.

diplomatic incident, the *Daily News* set the ball rolling with the headlines "20,000 INDIANS TO GO" and that Mr. Desai was to discuss details about the manner of repatriation.

Mr. Desai thereupon proceeded to discuss the question of repatriation and indicated that the Indian Government was willing to take back its nationals in batches.

Coming at this juncture, political observers are convinced that this was another effort by Mr. Desai to prop the up United National Party led by Sir John, which had fared very badly in the local government elections all over the country, before the crucial Municipal Elections to be held in Colombo on July 24.

### Keeping Pact Alive

Knowledgeable circles are further convinced that Mr. Desai by his heroics has succeeded in keeping his pact alive. One does not know what reports he sent to his Government, but there is no doubt that New Delhi will be very careful about being accused of "interference in the internal affairs" of the neighbouring countries.

Has this incident been utilised by Desai to persuade New Delhi to give in unreservedly on the

Continued on page 12

The *Times of Ceylon* followed suit with a leaderette on "Diplomatic Indiscretion."

### Repatriation

Within a week of this terrific

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# MR. DESAI MAKES THINGS WORSE

Continued from page 11

question of repatriation when all other matters under the Agreement are in abeyance or dispute? Was the "storm in a tea cup" episode highlighted in the Lake House Press a deliberate attempt to hoodwink New Delhi and at the same time bamboozle the Municipal voters of Colombo.

As far as Mr. Desai is concerned, he has succeeded in keeping the Pact alive by giving an opportunity to his friend Sir John Kotelawala to denounce any attempt by the Indian Government to repudiate the Pact as "interference" and "bullying tactics."

## Whom is Desai Bluffing?

The more one ponders about this matter the more mysterious it gets. What is Mr. Desai's game? If he is endeavouring to serve his Government he has failed

miserably. By this Pact and by his antics here, Mr. Desai has created more ill-will and distrust of India than ever before in the history of relations between the two countries.

Mr. Desai has not helped the Ceylon Indians either. He has made their position worse than ever. The Ceylon Democratic Congress leaders have only themselves to blame for having been taken in by Mr. Desai's pretence of sweet reasonableness.

It is stated that Mr. Desai was mainly responsible for the breakdown in the talks between Mr. Dudley Senanayake and Mr. Nehru in London last June. A premature release of certain kite-flying news through the PTI man in Colombo when Mr. Dudley Senanayake was en route was the first blow to the talks. The Dudley Senanayake proposals had at least the virtue of being an

overall settlement of the problem, whilst the present agreement settles nothing.

There is a suspicion in certain quarters that Mr. Desai was anxious to help his friend Sir John to consolidate his position. If this is correct, it would be interference in the internal affairs of this country. But judging from the local election results, the Pact does not seem to have helped Sir John, for the country seems to be turning to the Opposition Parties which have opposed the Pact tooth and nail from the very start.

*As far as one can see, Mr. Desai has really only helped the Americans to start an anti-Indian movement among disgruntled racialist and neo-fascist elements. Unless, something is done to remedy the situation, the Tri Sinhala Movement will become a major danger in this country.*



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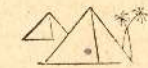
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# U. S. CLOAK



# AND DAGGER EXPERTS

The American delegation to the Geneva Conference is led by men who are experts in espionage, sabotage and sedition.

Both John Foster Dulles and General Bedell Smith have long been experts in these activities, which they are carrying out on a world scale.

Their weapons in this work are the State Department itself, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Psychological Warfare Board, commonly called the "Department of Dirty Tricks."

The key man is John Foster Dulles. This rich corporation lawyer, one-time supporter of the Nazi-sponsored America First Committee, was in at the birth of "Operation X," which was started in 1948 to organise United States seditious activities in Eastern Europe.

This is how the Big Business magazine, U. S. News and World Report, described "Operation X" six years ago :

"Under this plan, strong-arm squads would be formed under American guidance. Assassination of key Communists would be encouraged, American agents, parachuted into Eastern Europe . . . would be used to co-ordinate anti-Communist action . . . ."

## Boasts

And American journalists have since boasted that United States agents are at work in Eastern Europe. James Ruston, a New York Times correspondent, wrote in 1951 that :

*The Russians know that we are playing cops and robbers back of the Iron Curtain. So do the satellites and our allies. About the only people who do not know—and they must suspect it*

—are the American people . . . " Two years ago another Big Business magazine, Nation's Business, reported :

"No Government official will admit it, but we are training men to be spies, saboteurs, specialists in the tougher forms of psychological warfare. . . . They learn to blow up bridges, railroads, trains and war plants. . . ."

## Recruiter

The inspirer of the "tougher forms of psychological warfare" is

John Foster Dulles, and his main lieutenant is Allan Dulles, his younger brother, appointed head of the Central Intelligence Agency at the time when Eisenhower put John Foster in charge of the State Department.

Wartime head of the American intelligence service, Allan Dulles was mentioned in the trial of Laszlo Rajk, the Hungarian traitor, as the main recruiter of undercover American agents in Eastern Europe.

Continued on page 14

*For the full background story of the China Pact and the attempts to sabotage it*

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# U. S. CLOAK AND DAGGER EXPERTS

Continued from page 13

In 1948 as part of "Operation X" Allan Dulles was one of a three-man committee set up to re-organise United States cloak-and-dagger work.

In October, 1949, the New York Times again proclaimed:

"The American spy system, although still in its infancy, is robust and growing...American cloak-and-dagger men are now working noiselessly and invisibly throughout the world."

## Mischief

The second organisation controlled by the State Department is the Psychological Warfare Board, commonly known as the "Department of Dirty Tricks."

This is how James Reston describes it:

"It is suppose to co-ordinate the propaganda and cloak-and-dagger operations of all Government departments...to create behind the Iron Curtain all mischief short of war..."

It is the "Department of Dirty Tricks" that plans campaigns about "riots" in Poland or Czechoslovakia, the stealing of aeroplanes by gangsters, the confessions of "Russian agents."

Who is the man who put the teeth into the American spy system? It is Lt-Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, now in charge of the United States delegation at Geneva, since Dulles went back to Washington in a huff.

In 1950, he was put in charge of the American Central Intelligence Agency with the task of greatly increasing its work. Previously he had been U. S. Ambassador in Moscow.

When he came back to Washington to take up the new job, the New York Times remarked that "his tour of duty in Russia was particularly valuable to fit him for it—a strange conception of a diplomat's life!"

## Allies

When Eisenhower was elected President, Dulles took Bedell Smith as Under-Secretary of State and his chief adviser on foreign affairs.

*But American espionage is not directed only toward the Socialist countries. Plenty of it is used on her so-called allies.*

In the Sunday Express last June, the editor, John Gordon, revealed how Bedell Smith had planted a spy in Lord Mountbatten's war-time staff.

The man, Murphy, posed as a war correspondent and a great admirer of the British admiral. He died last year and a private obituary of him was circulated among his friends.

The obituary was written, according to Gordon, by a leader of the American intelligence service, and it praised the fine work Murphy did for the service "under the guise of a war correspondent."

## BOOK-BURNING

Continued from page 11

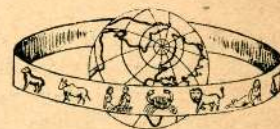
grossly ignorant of the book trade. It may be of interest to recall what Robert Trumbull, very anti Communist correspondent of the New York Times, had to say on this subject as far as India is concerned where similar accusations have been made from time to time. In a

despatch, published in that paper on 30th May 1954, Mr. Trumbull says:

"Studies by non-communist organisations indicate that there is no basis to the widely-held belief that communists are able to finance themselves by the sale of Moscow literature. Expensively produced books from Moscow, such as Stalin's biography, are offered for a few cents and sell by the thousands. But, experts on distribution costs here are convinced that little, if any, profit can accrue to the Communist organisation from such cheap sales."

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# WHOM IS J. R. FOOLING ?

Continued from page 1

Mr. N. U. Jayawardena as the Governor of the Central Bank, particularly after a senior and eminent Queen's Counsel held in high esteem in banking circles had begged of him not to appoint Mr. N. U. Jayawardena.

It is also known that Mr. Dudley Senanayake made efforts to obtain the services of an expert from the Bank of England to be Governor of our Central Bank. This effort, it would seem, was sabotaged by some mysterious means and it is to be hoped that Mr. Dudley Senanayake has at least now found out how he was stampeded into appointing Mr. N. U. Jayawardena as the Governor of the Central Bank.

## Agriculture

With the downfall of the Dudley Senanayake Government, which was caused primarily as a result of Mr. J. R. Jayewardene's policies and actions, Sir John Kotelawala was, perhaps against his better instincts, persuaded into retaining the services of Mr. J. R. Jayewardene as Minister of Agriculture and Food and Leader of the House.

If Sir John Kotelawala's Government falls prematurely it will undoubtedly be due to Mr. J. R. Jayewardene and his boastful but mischievous utterances. Within three months of his assuming duties as Minister of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Jayewardene started making grandiose speeches about overflowing granaries.

Having conjured up this wonderful picture of over-stocked granaries Mr. J. R. Jayewardene has suggested that Ceylon should commit suicide by repudiating the China Pact.

## Bluff

Mr. J. R. Jayewardene's claims about self-sufficiency are the sheepest bluff. He has no real statistics to support him. In fact, no proper or tested statistics about our food production exist.

As late as September 1952, the team from the World Bank recorded in their report that "consistent and reliable figures for paddy acreage and production are difficult to obtain." All that was available to them, and all that is still available, are "estimates" made by enthusias-

tic food production officials who do not hesitate to inflate figures to obtain praise and promotion.

There are instances where official estimates of food production have turned out to be completely fictitious. The World Bank Report sets out quite plainly that :

"Present paddy production would have to be at least doubled to overtake the requirements of the existing population, to say nothing of an annual 2.5 increase in numbers. Such a yield is theoretically possible, but cannot be achieved quickly. Arrayed against it are such factors as the uncertainty of water supply in certain areas, the wastage of water in others, the vagaries of season, the biological vicissitudes the still too low fertility of much of the paddy land, the low efficiency and natural conservatism of many small producers and the shortage of better, higher yielding strains."

There has been no evidence that the difficulties enumerated by the world Bank experts have been overcome in the short time that Mr. J. R. Jayewardene has been Minister of Agriculture.

In fact, in the Administration Report of the Director of Food Production for 1953 issued in June 1954 it is stated in no unmistakable terms that: "It has therefore been *estimated* the local production of rice is sufficient to meet the demands of about 49 per cent of the population so that 51 per cent of the food requirements have still to be imported". Incidentally, the report which endeavours to make a mountain of a meagre and miserable molehill has no statistics of any value or use to enable a critical student to obtain a picture of the state of food production in this island.

## Impudence

It is nothing short of impudence for Mr. J. R. Jayewardene to speak of increased production almost nearing self-sufficiency. Facts belie him. One does not need to go far. On Monday July 19, the *Daily News* carried another instalment of the Jayewardene propaganda boost in which it was claimed that Ceylon

did not need any more rice from China. It was also claimed in this piece that Ceylon's production of rice had increased (and that together with available stocks) imports from China could be eliminated.

In the absence of correct statistics, the *only test of production is the price fetched by locally produced rice*. The *Daily News* on July 19, on its Economic Page has a large headline which reads: RICE PRICES RISING AGAIN. In Anuradhapura, rice was sold at 95 cents a measure; in Kayts it was also 95 cents. About Kurunegala, the report records: "Heavy showers in the past few months have paved the way for a good Maha season. The price of locally grown rice is rising, however, and is now about 15 cents dearer than last month, samba selling at Rs. 1 a measure." In Aglawatte-Matugama area the paddy crop has been disappointing and owing to the continued absence of rain "the outlook is therefore poor." In Batticaloa pests have adversely affected the crop. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene should read these rather valuable reports in the *Daily News* before embarking on foolhardy campaigns to persuade people that there is a glut of paddy and rice in the country.

## The C.W.E.

The C.W.E. is a national trading organisation and nobody denies that it has many shortcomings. But it should be the endeavour of Government to remedy these defects and make the C.W.E. an efficient and incorruptible organisation to serve the needs of the people.

Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, however almost from the time he took over this Ministry, seems determined to wind up this organisation judging from the tenor of his speeches and statements.

The circumstances surrounding the "sacking" of Dr. W. G. Wickremasinghe, the one-man C.W.E. Commissioner and its aftermath has not redounded to the credit of Mr. J. R. Jayewardene. In fact, it is just one more instance of Mr. Jayewardene's utter incapacity to hold high Ministerial office.

# EGG-HOPPER POLITICS

## M U S T E N D

There is no doubt that the Prime Minister must be congratulated on the action he has taken in the matter of the action against Mr. N. U. Jayawardena. He has appointed a three-man Commission and its terms of reference seem to be comprehensive enough to enable the Commission to go into all allegations. In view of the fact that the vast majority of charges against Mr. N. U. Jayawardena related to a period outside the scope of the Bribery Act, the Commission has been properly constituted under the Commission of Inquiries Act.

In this matter of Mr. N. U. Jayawardena the Prime Minister has been very correctly and very well advised and the action he has taken has won him a great deal of admiration and support in the public. *It is generally felt that the advice of the Attorney General and the Minister of Justice have contributed a great deal in enabling the Prime Minister to arrive at a decision which has evoked such widespread popular response.*

### Unpopular

The only regret the public have is that the Prime Minister does not get such good and correct advice on many other matters that confront him. It is felt that a great many other actions of the Prime Minister, probably based on advice of other persons, is leading him into a position which is making him unpopular.

Those misleading the Prime Minister in this way are taking advantage of a dislike and hatred that Sir John has towards Communism and Communists. The advice they seem to be tendering him on how to fight communism is the most unimaginative and ill-thought of. Instead of taking people away from communism, by convincing them into the contrary the actions which Sir John has been persuaded to adopt will brand him as a neo-fascist and bring him into dispute with all the genuine democratic elements in this country.

### Pensions

Sir John's proverbial kindness also seems to be taken advantage

of in order to rush him into actions which create public disapproval. There is widespread demand for a Cabinet re-shuffle. It is not only directed against old men in their dotage but also others who are identified with irresponsible and dangerous policies and who in the past have driven the country into a mess.

Instead of meeting the situation in forthright manner in his inimicable style, Sir John seems to have been advised that "senior" ministers should be given a pension before they are thrown out of the Cabinet. This attempt to turn the Treasury of the country into a charitable organisation for Party adherents and hangers-on cannot naturally find public sympathy.

### Egg-hopper Land

To make pensions for "senior" Ministers a condition precedent for a

Cabinet re-shuffle is egg-hopper politics at its worst. It is bad enough to reduce the resignation of a Minister on matters of policy to the level of an egg-hopper breakfast, but to want to pay pensions for legislators of ten years standing is to turn this country into a veritable egg-hopper land.

This island has often been called a land of lotus-eaters, but it will be tragic if it goes down to history that in the regime of Sir John Kotelawala, Lanka was turned into an egg-hopper land. If this should happen, and the way things are going there is every chance of such a tragedy, it will be mainly due to certain advisers of Sir John who seem to have unlimited ambitions and a magic control over an important section of the press in Ceylon. If Sir John does not discard such advisers in time, he is bound to run into stormy weather sooner or later.



".....to make pensions for 'Senior' ministers a condition precedent for a cabinet re-shuffle is egg-hopper politics at its worst....."