

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Vol I No. 25

COLOMBO, OCTOBER 16, 1954

15 Cents.

LONDON LOAN TOUCHES

Public memory is proverbially short, and in Ceylon it seems to be shorter than in other parts of the world. Practically everybody seems to have forgotten all about the London Loan and the mystery that still enshrouds it.

But the value of the London Loan stock has been quietly mounting up. For a fortnight or more, the price of the stock which was issued at £ 97 has been over £ 100. On October 7, the last date for which we have figures, the closing price was £ 100 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Persons who invested in this stock have, besides the generous interests they receive, this additional benefit of a £ 3 appreciation in value in less six months. The question which "Tribune" has always posed is why this opportunity was never given to Ceylon investors in Ceylon itself. Why have London investors (including may be, Ceylonese) been given a privilege which local investors have never so far been given?

Cornering

A great many questions we asked about the London Loan still remain unanswered. The Finance Minister in his reply to the Budget Debate made passing reference to the criticisms about the London Loan, but apart from jocular abuse of the critics he did not meet the queries raised.

He had no answer for the charge of cornering stock issued at £ 97 on a £ 10 first payment and resale at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ premium within a few days. To meet this charge he had to reveal the list of the original allottees. For some strange reason, this list of allottees (as on the night of March 25) is being kept as a sacred mystery.

The excuse that the Bank of England does not like the names revealed is inadequate in view of the gravity of the charges made.

Charges

Apart from the question of cornering, queries as to why this rate

100 $\frac{3}{4}$

of interest four per cent tax free—was never offered to Ceylon investors still remain unanswered. Also unanswered are questions relating to the charges borne by the Ceylon Government to float this loan.

How much has this loan cost the Ceylon tax-payer is a question that Government has chosen not to answer. What were paid as brokers' fees? What amounts of monies have been charged by the trustees? How much have stock-brokers made?

Under-writing

Another unanswered query relates to under writing. Who were the stockbrokers through whom the applications, that were lucky enough to get allotments in the four minutes the lists were open, were submitted?

Was it only one stockbroker or several?

It is important to know this for several reasons, one among which is to find out how far the charge of cornering can be made out against a particular group.

Continued on page 2

LANGUAGE & EDUCATION

—Julius de Lanerolle

P. 3

INDIAN LABOUR

—Senator Nadesan Q.C.

P. 5

INDONESIA

—Our Djakarta Correspondent

P. 7

The Truth About British Guiana

London Loan Touches

100 3/4

Recent developments in British Guiana have brought that colony into the centre of world attention. We have received a pamphlet from London, put out by the Labour Research Department, which explains the background of these events, giving a description of the regime established by the British colonial authorities and the conditions of labour in the colony.

Booker's

It tells us who are the real masters of the country. Sugar, the colony's most important product and the basis of its economy, is "entirely in the hands of three British companies, namely Booker Bros. McConnell; the Demerara Co (of Liverpool) and S. Davson & Co." Booker Bros. McConnell "through its subsidiaries accounts for some 70 per cent of Guiana's total sugar output." The influence of this company on the entire economic and social life of British Guiana is such that the colony has been referred to as "Booker's Guiana."

Other big monopolies which exploit the natural wealth of the colony are British Guiana Consolidated Goldfields and the Aluminium Co. of Canada. The former exports gold and is British-owned; the latter exports bauxite and is closely connected with the Mellon interests, that is, with American capital. Thus American as well as British capital controls British Guiana.

Profits

The pamphlet gives figures showing the enormous profits earned by these companies. Booker Bros. McConnell, for instance, secured net earnings of £207,000 in 1948, and £613,000 in 1952.

These huge profits are derived from the brutal exploitation of the native population. Foreign workers employed on the sugar plantations receive several times higher pay than Guiana workers.

The pamphlet quotes excerpts from the report of a commission which investigated the sugar industry in 1949. It noted the appalling conditions of work. Plantation labourers usually have to walk an

hour each way to and from work, and do a 10-hour stretch of work in between. There is no shelter from rain or sun, and the workers usually have to drink water from canals, as there is no provision of drinking water.

"Men and women up to their waists or even higher in the water, were pulling out weeds with their hands or removing mud and debris in small baskets."

The commission was forced to admit that child labour was widely practised.

And this is what the commissioner had to say about the housing conditions of the workers:

The question of housing is a major problem. . . . We inspected many [of the houses]. In quite a number the corrugated iron roofs were leaking and the fabric of the buildings was in a general state of decay. In numerous instances temporary sheets or awnings had been fixed over the beds to keep off the rain. They had mud floors and consequently with the rain dropping from the roofs these were made slippery and dangerous. . . ."

Suppressed

In the light of these facts, it is not difficult to understand the recent events in the colony. At the April 1953 elections the People's Progressive Party won a landslide victory. Its election program reflected the hopes and aspirations of the subjugated people. It called for real self administration, development of the processing industries, land reform, housing for the workers, unemployment insurance, protection of trade unions, etc. After the elections the democratic government proceeded to implement this program. One of its first measures was to compel employers to recognize the trade unions which the employees wanted. The British authorities retaliated by deposing the lawful government and taking repressive measures against the people of the colony.

The facts and figures given in the pamphlet reveal the causes of the recent events in British Guiana. The British had established a cruel regime which condemned

Continued from page 1

Share-List

The easiest way for Government to have set at rest all the doubts about the London Loan was to have published the list of allottees as on March 25, 1954. As it has been pointed out in our issue of July 3 and July 10 there have been instances when this practice of keeping share-lists secret have been broken when grave allegations have been made.

In the case of the London Loan, in spite of the fact Government spokesmen have attempted to laugh away the criticisms, a great many doubts still exist and an even greater number of queries still remain unanswered.

If not today some day in the near future, the mystery of the Ceylon Loan floated on March 25, 1954 in London will and must be probed and the facts such investigation reveals must be brought before the bar of Ceylonese public opinion.

In all this, the role of Messrs. Richardson & Co., bankers and brokers, of 56 South Moulton Street, London must receive the special attention of the investigators.

It is not unlikely that the London Loan and its mysteries will figure in a big way in certain proceedings in the near future, and *Tribune* takes this opportunity of reminding its readers of of some of the issues involved.

In the meantime the value of this stock keeps steadily mounting up in the London Stock Market.

the local population to backbreaking toil and a half-starved existence. Their patience became exhausted. But when they try to secure some improvement in their conditions, the British government sends troops to the colony, abolishes even those meagre democratic rights conferred on it by the Constitution, and rides roughshod over its people.

NATIONAL LANGUAGES &

Education

I have read through the terms of reference somewhat carefully and, having done so, I cannot help feeling that some of the directions given to the commission tend to be unnecessarily involved and may even lead to confusion.

For, as far as we are aware, the primary and secondary education in Ceylon has long been planned, after a lengthy investigation by a Special Committee, and the programme decided upon by Government has been in operation for some considerable time now. In the meantime, definite steps have also been taken to adopt Sinhalese and Tamil as the official languages of the country.

Secondary Education.

Assuming that the Education Department has taken all the steps necessary to carry the Government plan to a successful conclusion, there can possibly be nothing to prevent the holding of the clerical service examinations in Sinhalese and Tamil within the period prescribed by the Official Languages Commission. *Any inquiry by an independent Commission at this stage as to when and how Sinhalese and Tamil can be introduced into the Senior Secondary Schools must therefore be considered as superfluous and uncalled for. Such a question might well have been addressed to the Official Languages Commission itself, or to any other body appointed earlier, had the Education Department not taken the necessary steps to implement the declared policy of Government on Secondary education.*

It was in 1951 that the Government took its decision to extend the national media to secondary schools—by no means to the Junior secondary schools alone. In taking this decision, and in introducing the national media into the Junior schools first, the Government should of course have known when and how they could or would continue in the Senior secondary stage. If the Government was not possessed of that knowledge in 1951, the Official Languages Commission should never have been appointed in that year with what

The controversy on the problem of the national languages is assuming serious proportions, and in order to acquaint our readers with basic facts, "Tribune" will publish in the coming weeks the views of persons competent to say something on the matter. This week we publish a memorandum submitted to the Commission on Higher Education by Mr. Julius de Lanerolle, Editor of the Sinhalese Dictionary, an acknowledged authority on Sinhalese and allied languages and one who has been closely associated with the growth of the National Languages' Movement in this country.

terms of reference given to it, and having done so, its recommendations should never have been implemented in such a hurry. But I for one can hardly believe that the early implementation of the Official Languages Commission's recommendations was due to any oversight or remissness on the part of the policymakers.

Back Ground

It may be of some interest to recall that the Education Ordinance (No. 31) of 1939 purporting "to make better provision for Education and to revise and consolidate the law relating thereto" was silent on the national medium of instruction as such. But there was even at that time a persistent demand for a change in the medium of instruction, so much so that the Special Committee on Education which was appointed in 1943 took very serious notice of the subject.

The Special Committee hardly anticipated at that comparatively distant date any drastic change in the medium of Administration to become necessary, but accepted the principle that mother tongue should be the medium of instruction. The State Council debated

its report in 1945 and decided that the medium of instruction in the primary school should be the mother tongue (i. e. Sinhalese or Tamil for the children of those nationalities), with English as a compulsory second language.

The Education Code was accordingly amended providing that "from October 1945 the mother tongue of each pupil shall be made the medium of instruction in all classes up to Standard V and English shall be taught as a compulsory second language in all schools from Standard III upwards".

It was in September 1945, that is to say, three months after the Special Committee's report was debated in the State Council, that a Select Committee of the State Council was appointed "to consider and report on the steps necessary to effect the transition from English into Sinhalese and Tamil with the object of making Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages of the country". The Select Committee so appointed submitted its report in 1946.

About one year later the Executive Committee of Education was empowered to make regulations regarding the medium of instruction; this was done by the Amending Ordinance (No. 26) of 1947. The Amending Act No. 5 of 1951 introducing the national media of instruction into the secondary level of education came into operation on 1st April 1951 followed by the appointment of the Official Languages Commission on 23rd May 1951.

Premature

In view of all these activities, coming in regular succession, it would be well nigh impossible for anybody to imagine how the Government ordered the Official Languages Commission's recommendations to be put into effect as soon as they were made, unless Government believed that all the arrangements necessary for the smooth progress of Secondary Education through the national media were well under way. If on the other hand, such a belief

Continued on page 14

MEDICAL CONSEQUENCES

The fishermen of the trawler "Fukuryu Maru" which on the 1st of May was about 150 kilometres from the place of the explosion, having been compelled to land to take on oil. At first red blotches like sun-burn and some light skin swelling were the only noticeable effects.

Blood count down

Immediately after their return, two of them were brought to Professor Tzusuki in Tokyo, who after a quick examination diagnosed Dermatitis, an acute inflammation of the skin. This is not surprising because to diagnose radiation effects needs careful study and the use of a Geiger counter. But later the sick men had the appearance of patients who had been over treated with Rontgen radiation. A blood check 16 days after the ash rain did not demonstrate any morbid symptom, but "Leuchaemia" was assured with absolute certainty by Professor Tzusuki 8 days later, that is to say, three weeks after the men were affected by radio active ash. This disease creates a rapid decrease of the white blood cells, and in this case the blood cells of the fishermen had diminished from 5000—8000 to 3000—4000 in 3 weeks. In their urine were found the signs of radio activity.

Marrow attacked

The radiological chemical analysis of the ashes demonstrated about 16 radio active elements among them 5 of particular biological importance. Two kinds of Strontium and two kinds of Iodine and Barium. Following this the other 21 fishermen were also taken to Tokyo and placed under the care of Professor Tzuski. Six of them were suffering a white blood cell decrease to under 3000. In every case, damage of the bone marrow was apparent under examination. The danger of this lies first of all in lowering the body's resistance to bacteriological diseases to a general weakness whose outcome is fatal.

These observations are parallel to the observations made on several survivors of Hiroshima.

Aikichi Kuboyama is the world's first victim of the U.S. Hydrogen Bomb. He was only 39 years old, had a wife and a family of three girls. Radioman on the trawler *Fortunate Dragon*. Aikichi Kuboyama and his crewmates were sprinkled with the white fine ash of the atom blast on March 29—the ash which the Japanese have since come to know as *shi no hai* (the ashes of death).

On hearing of his death, after lingering in hospitals for over six months, U. S. Ambassador John Allison made out a cheque in favour of the widow on an American bank for the magnificent sum of one million yen in the inflated currency of U. S. dominated Japan. One million yen is 2,777, or a little over Rs. ₹3,000. "It is a gesture," said the Ambassador, "of goodwill....."

Aikichi Kuboyama is dead, but in the hospitals of Tokyo another twenty two fishermen, victims of *shi no hai*, struggling for life. Doctors say that they will have to receive medical care for the rest of their lives; at least until they die.

Ten million Japanese people have already signed a petition demanding the banning of the bomb and the atom tests in the Pacific. The U. S. magazine *Time* sneers: "But twinges of anti-U. S. sentiment flickered across the islands; delegations of tuna fishermen marched up and down before Japan's Foreign Ministry demanding an immediate halt of U. S. bomb tests, and scores of protesting Japanese paraded on foot or in trucks before the U. S. embassy."

Hemorrhage of texture in spite of the transfusions

In the case of intensive total exposure to radiation not only the young growing cells suffer but the majority of the elements suffer lesions. This is in the line with the known facts of the treatment by radiation of malignant

tumours. During the first weeks the victims of radiation suffer from their stomachs and intestines, arising from the death of cells in the mucous of the digestion paths. In the third or fourth week a high percentage of blood forming elements disappear from the bone marrow. From this originates a decrease of the pus cells (granulocytes) in the blood and this cause a decrease of the resistance of the organism. For the bleeding of the texture widespread amongst the A. bomb victims in 1945, no satisfactory explanation could be given, because it appeared that the cells necessary for the coagulation of the blood were present in a sufficient number. Only in 1947 were Allen and his collaborators able to show on dogs treated with intensive Rontgen radiation, that the bleeding which followed arises from a great increase in Heparin, an agent which prevents coagulation. In recent years this yeast like substance given successfully to patients having a high capacity for the coagulation of the blood.

Experiments in 1952 proved that textures damaged by intensive radiation cannot be saved either by repeated transfusion or by treatment to assist blood coagulation. Thus up to now, there is no known treatment for victims of radiation.

Causes blindness

For many years an abnormal increase of the cells in the blood forming organs has been observed among persons working with radio active materials and Leuchaemia is regarded by many as an occupational disease, especially by those working in or near radiation laboratories.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki have announced big increases in Leuchaemia. In 1945, 10% of the grown up survivors having been in Hiroshima at the time of the explosion also developed weakness of vision followed by total blindness through cataract. Further radiation damages have not yet been ascertained on these men suffering from

Continued on page 15

JUSTICE MUST BE DONE

The question that arises is whether, even if the Indians succeed in getting ten Members out of 101 Members in the new Parliament, they can have a dominating voice in the government of the country. They certainly cannot have such a voice. On the other hand, the presence of these ten Members would mean to these poor unfortunate men, who have made such a vital contribution to our national economy, some measure of amelioration of their condition and a guarantee that their troubles and difficulties will be effectively ventilated in the legislature of the land.

No domination

The cry of Indian domination has no reality today and is being repeated when the conditions under which such a cry was tenable have ceased to exist. One may reasonably ask why, under the present altered circumstances with a stable Indian labour population in this country who are performing useful service, and with effective control of future immigration in our hands, we should not honour the undertakings given in the past on the faith of which these unfortunate men and women were brought to this land when the practical effect of giving Indian labour the vote on the same basis as the rest of the population would mean at the most an increase of four seats in a Parliament over 100. If need be even the number of Members in the Parliament can be increased to give Indian labour these additional four seats.

There is no longer any political or economic reason for the perpetuation of this discrimination against the Indian labour population in Ceylon and if we value freedom and democracy we should render to these men by whose toil we benefit so largely the justice that has been denied to them by the very race that was responsible for their exploitation in the past. By taking this step the Government of this country, far from losing anything, will gain tremendously in prestige and strength and the artificial situation

Last week we published the first part of an article written by Senator S. Nadesan Q. C. in 1946 and published in the TIMES OF CEYLON on July 23 of that year. This week we publish the second and concluding part.

of a country on the threshold of freedom living on exploited labour which has no effective voice in remedying its condition will once and for all be terminated.

What is even of far greater national importance is that we would have improved our relationship with India and re-established those bonds of friendship which it has been the aim of recent British policy to keep asunder so that the natural alliance between India and Ceylon might be prevented and our country preserved as a base for military and commercial operations by Britain.

And the price for all these advantages? An additional four seats at the most to Indian labour in a Parliament of over 100 Members!

Citizenship

Apart from the question of the franchise, the other question that vitally concerns Indian labour in Ceylon is that of Ceylonese citizenship. The fact remains that in the pre Donoughmore era Indians in Ceylon had full citizenship rights. In point of fact they had the advantage of what may be called dual citizenship.

This was no doubt unsatisfactory, but the Indian and Ceylon Governments of those days never concerned themselves with any principle so long as they were able to secure the interests of British capital in the various territories ear marked for exploitation. It is hardly necessary to state that a responsible Ceylonese Government cannot possibly tolerate the idea of dual citizenship any longer and is bound to insist that if the Indian worker desires to enjoy the advantages of

Ceylonese citizenship he should unequivocally claim it and look to our Government for protection and not to the Indian Raj. This has been the avowed policy of those who are at the head of affairs in Ceylon today.

As early as November, 1928, Mr. Senanayake clearly set out this position in the course of the Donoughmore Commission debate in the Legislative Council as will be shown from the following extracts from his speech.

He said: "We do not want to get rid of anyone from this Island. Let us live together; let us be citizens of this country and not citizens of any..... We want the Indians in Ceylon to be Ceylonese, to be domiciled here; we do not deny them citizenship..... We would welcome the Indians as Ceylonese, but if they have no permanent interest in Ceylon, then let them be Indians and let them look after themselves. They must be either citizens of India or Ceylon.... We do not want to differentiate; we do not want to discriminate; we do not consider the Indian as aliens. We tell them: 'Become part of ourselves, become Ceylonese and then share in the Government of the country'. That is our position and I hope that our friends will not for their own purposes mis-interpret us but will appreciate our real attitude in this matter.

'We will embrace you'

No reasonable person can take any exception to the sentiments so forcefully expressed by Mr. Senanayake, sentiments which he emphasised again after a lapse of nearly 18 years in the course of his memorable speeches on the occasion of the debate on the Soulbury White Paper proposals, when he said:—

"As far as India is concerned our affection for her is known to all Indians. The pity of it is some people doubt it and believe that we have some snobbish ideas that Indians are not wanted here.

Continued on page 12

KENYA & GUIANA

WHY MAU MAU? by Fenner Brockway London 1953

BRITISH GUIANA by Labour Research Department, 1953

The events in Kenya have been agitating the public both in Britain and other countries. When they first started towards the close of last year, amidst howls of "anti-European terrorism" in the British press, Fenner Brockway and another Labour M. P., Leslie Hale, toured the colony, studied official reports and data, interviewed the governor and spoke to African peasants. Their findings are set forth in this pamphlet, which describes the general position in the colony and how the authorities are exterminating the people, burning down native villages and hounding—literally—defenceless women and children.

Ruthless

The picture Fenner Brockway brought back with him is one of ruthless social, economic and race oppression in a country whose colonial rulers have destroyed the former tribal system and replaced it with a bureaucratic police regime. Compared with that regime, the primitive customs of the Kenya jungle were models of democracy.

"We have demolished the old democratic structure," Fenner Brockway writes, "and replaced it by a low, impenetrable ceiling of administration which thrusts their grievances back upon the people."

Fenner Brockway relates an episode characteristic of how the colonial authorities have degraded the role of the tribal chiefs. One of these puppet rulers agreed to give him an interview, but only with the permission of the British District Officer. During the "interview," the chief spoke only twice: to say "yes" on the two occasions when the District Officer, who was present, turned to him for confirmation of his recital of the "prosperity of the Africans."

The pamphlet cites several facts illustrative of the conditions of the indigenous population. Here are some of them.

Hunger

In the Kikuyu reservations there are from 500 to 1,000 people for every square mile of farmland; the average for the European population is 1 square mile per person. Is it to be wondered at that 500,000 of the 1,250,000 Kikuyus have been compelled to quit the reservations because the land could not support them?

Hunger has also driven many to the cities, or to jobs on European farms. Here the labourer and his family work from dawn to dusk and get from 2/6d to 4/6d a week. None of them can leave the farm without written permission from the overseer.

"I know of no labour conditions in the British sphere of Africa closer to slavery," Fenner Brockway remarks.

City

The African who is lucky enough to find work in the city earns about 60 shillings a month, which is barely enough for food for himself, so that he is unable to provide for family in the reservation. Housing conditions are appalling, as may be seen from Fenner Brockway's description of Nairobi, the capital of the colony:

"We approached a brick structure which looked like a row of latrines. . . . We knocked at any door by chance. The one room was ten feet by ten. It had no window and was dark. Three married couples were sleeping in it, their quarters limited to narrow beds behind curtains. . . . Is it surprising that the death rate from tuberculosis has increased in Nairobi by threefold in the last seven years?"

Discrimination

Other facts given in the pamphlet show the race discrimination which the African is made to feel at every step. The whole system is calculated to give him to understand that he is a being of an

inferior order, a "sub-human." One representative of the "superior race" told Fenner Brockway that all Africans are dishonest and lazy, that their language has no words for love, gratitude, loyalty. Similar slanderous and malicious fabrications have been coined to justify the policy of brutal exploitation. How brutal that exploitation is can be judged from the fact that the African worker is paid only one twenty-fifth of what the lowest category of European workers get. And no matter where he goes, the African is sure to encounter the humiliating "For Europeans Only" signs. The segregation law extends to restaurants, hotels, schools, hospitals and to whole residential districts.

African

Quoted in the pamphlet are the glowing promises made by the Conservative government in its Devonshire Declaration of 1923, which now, 30 years later, in the light of the intolerable position of the native people, sounds like sheer mockery.

"Primarily Kenya is an African territory and His Majesty's Government think it necessary definitely to record their considered opinion that the interests of the African natives must be paramount, and that if and when those interests and the interests of the immigrant races should conflict, the former should prevail."

Police rule and judicial terror are rife, and Fenner Brockway speaks of brutal reprisals, suppression of the Kenya African Union, the closing down of African papers and schools, wholesale arrests and murder of absolutely innocent people.

"When the Nazis carried out collective punishments against the Jewish race during the war, British politicians of all parties voiced their indignant protest. The immorality of punishing innocent

Continued on page 13

U. S. OPPOSE NEUTRALITY POLICY

Indonesia is one of the largest Southeast Asian countries with a territory of 1,904,000 square kilometres and a population of 80 million people. It consists of a dense network of islands, big and small, with Java, Sumatra, Borneo and Celebes as the main land masses.

The Indonesian archipelago is the connecting link between Asia and Australia, separates the Pacific from the Indian Ocean, and serves as the hub of important sea and air communications between Europe and the Far East

The Union

After long and protracted struggle, the Indonesian Republic was proclaimed in 1949, but this was done on the basis of a Netherlands-Indonesian Union arrived at the Hague Round Table Conference.

The U. S. A., whose representatives attended the Round Table Conference in the capacity of "mediators" had a big part in shaping the policy which led to the Union. It was under U. S. pressure that Indonesia was forced to accept terms which were detrimental to her national interests.

The Union stipulated that the Netherlands was entitled to control Indonesia's foreign policy, station their armed forces and maintain War bases on her territory. Dutch business interests retained very important privileges and had opportunities of interfering in the domestic affairs of Indonesia.

United States

U. S. interests were similarly safeguarded. The U. S., next to the Dutch have vast investments in Indonesia. The rich oilfields of Central Sumatra are in the hands of California Texas Oil (Caltex) which has invested 70 million dollars in these oilfields. Everyday American firms extract and export 2,500 tons of Indonesian oil. Goodyear Tyre and Rubber has plantations in Sumatra and tyre plant at Bogor. General Motors has an assembly centre at Djakarta.

From

Our Djakarta Correspondent

American economic penetration has also taken the form of American control of Dutch firms at the "source". Twenty Eight American firms have established branches in Holland since the war, and eighteen have "merged" with Dutch firms.

American control of world rubber and tin market had tended to force down prices; for, until recently U. S. pressure had prevented any trade with China and the "Iron Curtain countries."

U. S. Big Business is enamoured of Indonesian resources and natural wealth-rubber, oil, and tin strategic materials which the *U. S. News and World Report* describes as the "No. 1. prize of the area".

Dissolution.

On August 10, this year the Netherlands-Indonesian Union was dissolved, and this has removed the greatest obstacle in the way of full Indonesian sovereignty. American diplomacy did everything it could to prevent the dissolution of the Union and the Western-Iran (Western New Guinea issue.)

At the 1949 Round Table Conference it was decided that Western-Iran was to remain under Dutch colonial rule and this was done under U. S. pressure. This problem still remains unsolved and U. S. is taking full advantage of it.

Right from 1949, U. S. has been doing everything it could to draw the young Republic of Indonesia into the orbit of its military policy. Washington sent a number of military missions in the effort to secure war bases on Indonesian territory. In 1952, it tried to "pressure" Indonesia as it now has done Pakistan into accepting Mutual Security "Aid" which would have placed her armed forces and territory under U. S. control.

The pro-American Government then in power, signed the Agreement proposed by Washington, without the consent or knowledge of the people. News of the Agreement, however, leaked out and roused such angry protests, that the Sukiman Government had to resign and American plan failed.

SEATO

Having failed to draw Indonesia to become a direct satellite like Pakistan, Thailand or the Phillipines, U.S. attempted to draw Indonesia into the SEATO on a slightly different footing.

Merdeka, a pro-Government paper, recently reported that U. S. had plans to make Indonesia part of the SEATO system and build military bases at 90 points in her territory. In fact, their location had already been chartered on American staff maps. This and other similar reports prompted Dr. Otto Rondonuwu, Chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, to issue a statement that Indonesia would never tolerate foreign military bases on her territory.

Unable to obtain bases in Indonesia, the U. S. A. are assisting the Dutch to retain control of Western-Iran, where the Dutch under Washington's direction are erecting military installations. The *Merdeka* and the *Indonesia Sunday Courier* have both commented that the plan of the U. S. Dutch colonialists is to turn Western Irian into a second Formosa.

Indonesia is now demanding the return of Western-Irian and the matter is now before the U. N. O.

Foreign Policy

The main feature of the foreign policy of the present Indonesian Government is to keep out of aggressive blocks in Asia. Indonesia has rejected SEATO, and the visit of Mr. Ali Sastromidjojo to New Delhi is indicative of her neutralist attitude. *Merdeka* summed this up when it stated that Indonesia.

Continued on page 15

Comment

● MULTI-NATIONAL STATE

● BUDDHIST REPUBLIC

DELHI AGREEMENT

The Agreement concluded at Delhi last Monday must be welcomed by all persons interested in amicably solving the problem arising from the presence in this country of a substantial number of Indian settlers and residents. This Agreement does not solve the outstanding problems with any degree of finality. It has, as one newspaper in India stated, put back on the tracks the "de-railed" Nehru-Kotelawala agreement. Having achieved this salutary purpose, the Agreement lays down certain broad principles to assist in the implementation of the earlier Pact.

The present Agreement is undoubtedly an admission that the Nehru-Kotelawala Agreement had not been implemented satisfactorily. It is pointless, at this stage, to revive the controversy as to who was responsible for creating the impasse. Post-mortems become essential only with death, and it must be said that the Nehru-Kotelawala Agreement is still alive and that it has been given a fresh lease of rejuvenated life. In the circumstances, we can only urge that the Agreement be implemented in a friendly and honourable manner by all parties concerned. It must be stressed, however, that it is unfair and unjust to take advantage of technical loopholes. Administrative abuse by one party will inevitably call forth similar retaliation from other parties as well.

In the ultimate analysis, the Agreement postpones the issue for another two years and the *status quo* continues in an uneasy manner. It is not without significance that this problem comes up again for review in the year of the next General Election, and it is possible that groups and cliques both within and without the U. N. P. will endeavour to exploit this "unsolved" problem to their advantage.

It is necessary on this occasion to place on record the fact that

Premier Sir John Kotelawela at New Delhi acted with caution, statesmanship and understanding. From the meagre press reports available to us at the time of writing on the behind-the-scenes activities particularly among the Ceylon Delegation, it would seem that the stand taken by Mr. Dudley Senanayake was somewhat disappointing. Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranayake's see-sawing was nothing unexpected, but ex-Premier Dudley Senanayake's attitude has caused a great deal of consternation.

This paper extends its heartiest congratulations to Sir John in avoiding an unpleasant deadlock at New Delhi and in having signed an Agreement, which carries the promise of a solution.

Buddha Jayanthi

Sir John has an even more unenviable task to face in Ceylon. His statement that he would be shortly taking steps to make Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages and secure their equality by making suitable amendments to the Constitution has brought forth a storm of protest from a section of the Sinhalese from whom one expected a greater sense of tolerance and understanding than they have shown recently.

It is regrettable that a number of Buddhist priests should take it upon themselves to tell the country and its leaders that Ceylon should cease to be the multi-national state it is and become a Buddhist Republic. Wishful thinking such as these reverend gentlemen, who should really keep out of political matters, seem anxious to indulge in can lead to disastrous consequences, and it is imperative that Sir John and his Cabinet should persuade these priests not to rush where angels would never dare to tread.

There is no doubt that the Government is partly responsible for creating such a situation. For sometime now, certain elements in the administration and in the country, without any reprimand from the Cabinet and the Government as a whole, have been permitted to give vent to chauvinistic Sinhalese jingoism. The hoary excuse that men like Mr. Ponnambalam and Mr. Chelvanayagam approached politics communally was no excuse for the large number of things done administratively and otherwise which if carried to their logical conclusions, without let or hindrance, would lead to the oppression of the national minorities in this country.

In this connection, the decision of Government to participate fully in the Buddha Jayanthi Celebrations in 1956 (it also being the year of the next General Elections) is a further encouragement to the most reactionary elements demanding the formation of a Buddhist Republic. The *Times of Ceylon* and the *Guardian*, in two of the most refreshing editorials recently written in our daily papers, totally opposed Government participation in the Buddha Jayanthi Celebrations. The *Daily News* and the *Lake House* made an apology for their indefensible decision and called upon everybody to accept this decision "in the right spirit".

Unless Sir John and his Cabinet even at this late stage, decide to stop making improper concessions to persons of one religion only because they constitute a numerical majority, they face the danger of the destruction of the secular multi-national state that Ceylon is.

It is well to remember the lessons of history: that national minorities cannot be suppressed by oppressive measures. And that such oppression carries with it the seeds of its own destruction.

- Lake House Logic N. L. S. S. P.
- Square Words Otters
- Ceylon Flag Sugar

IMPORT POLICY

My reference last week to Import policy has had some curious repercussions. It has created discussion and even speculation in certain circles. And this makes it all the more important why it is necessary to turn the spotlight on this aspect of Ceylon economy.

Has the Industrial Products Act served the purpose for which it was enacted? Take the question of glass manufacture. Until the Government Glass Factory was closed down, there were two factories in production. Now, it would appear there is only one. More factories have to be set up and what one wonders is whether the Industrial Products Regulations Board is conscious of the fact that on its policies depend the future and the fate of the existing factory and also whether Ceylonese capital will be attracted to set up more factories.

The specious excuse that Japanese glassware will be "cheaper" is not an excuse for not protecting local industries. It is in the interest of Japan and other exporting countries to kill nascent industries in countries like Ceylon by under-cutting prices and for this reason protection is essential. Even countries like America have protective tariffs to assist local industries.

Sherlock Holmes tells me that the Industrial Products Regulations Board recently refused to assist the one glass factory in existence by some concession in the matter of protection on the strange ground that such protection would help a "Ceylonese monopoly capital". The Industrial Products Act was and is intended to assist "Ceylonese capital" to develop industry, and the fact that such assistance might lead to a monopoly is no reason for refusing to

lend such protection. The abuse of monopoly might be met by other means at the disposal of Government. It must not be forgotten also that the monopoly might not last very long, for protection is bound to attract other Ceylonese to establish glass factories.

Even if the people of Ceylon have for a time to drink their water (or even arrack) from tumblers which are not as well finished as glassware from Japan or England, protection is essential. Otherwise industries will never arise in Ceylon in the present world context.

As I said earlier, this matter about import policy needs proving.

Logic

The Political Correspondent of the *Ceylon Daily News* in his column last Saturday once again rushed into that peculiar kind of logic which attempts to meet political arguments by personal jibes and innuendos.

He takes to task the Ceylon Democratic Congress delegation to New Delhi. The fact that they have gone there is proof enough, according to him, that the C. D. C. is really Indian and not Ceylonese.

The argument is fantastic. It must be remembered that the Ceylon Indians (represented by the C. D. C.) are de-citizenised and disenfranchised. They have no place in Parliament and they cannot therefore make representations through the normal parliamentary channels. Nor does the Government want to hear them on any other footing. Government pretends that Mr. S. P. Vythilingam and others like him

are the authentic voice of the Ceylon Indians. After having effectively cut off all contact with the C. D. C. in Ceylon, the Government proceeds to New Delhi to make arrangements with the Indian Government concerning the fate of these self-same Ceylon Indians. In these circumstances, what is the C. D. C. to do?

I have many a bone to pick with the C. D. C.—both sins of commission and omission. But it is entirely unfair to refuse to hear them in Ceylon and thereafter condemn them as 'traitors' and 'aliens' and "Indians" simply because they go to the same place to which the Ceylon Government goes to effect a settlement of the Ceylon Indian problem.

N. L. S. S. P.

The Lake House seems to be adopting the same technique to fashion the N. L. S. S. P. to be a party after its own heart. The campaign has gone on for some months now. Lake House wants the "democratic" elements in the L. S. S. P. to get together with the better elements in the U. N. P. to provide a stable democratic government in Ceylon.

Lake House is entitled to ask of the L. S. S. P. just what it wants, and it is for the N. L. S. S. P. to do what it thinks right, but it is not "cricket" for Lake House to indulge in such cartoons as the one drawn by Collette last Monday for the "Observer". The cartoon suggests that DORIC de Souza, BERNARD Soysa and (possibly) COLVIN R. de Silva are leading the party into "oblivion" and that it is up to N. M. Perera to save the rank and file by cutting the links between the three aforesaid gentlemen and the party.

Continued on page 10

IMPORT POLICY

Continued from page 9

Wishful thinking is an excellent pastime, but in matters political it is correct that everything be kept on a political level. To refer to these three gentlemen, however much Lake House may differ from them, in the way Collette has done is not political argument.

In the same way it would be unfair for these gentlemen to counter Lake House Logic by referring to ex-Comrades in the Lake House Set-up!

It is time Lake House grew up

Squarewords

The *Guardian* group of papers seem to have tied up with the *Indian Express* group of Madras. The present connecting link seems to be the SQUAREWORDS. This link up may have great possibilities. Goenka of the *Express* is one of the big figures in Indian newspaperland. He owns and manages a string of papers all over India.

Goenka has been for sometime now been toying with the idea of having a newspaper group in Ceylon for him to exploit his SQUAREWORDS. Will this tie up with the *Guardian* lead to greater things?

Otters Without Strings

To prove that Free Asia Committee is highly altruistic, Mr. Holdbrook Bradley has thrown Rs. 75,000 into the Otters swimming pool. A great deal of publicity was given to the fact that there were no strings attached.

Rupees seventy five thousand is little enough money for the budget the Free Asia Committee operates, and this sum is worth it if the public can be deluded into the belief that the Free Asia Committee's only aim is to help poor Asians.

In spite of all the money the Free Asia Committee was willing to give all sorts of associations in India, the Indian Government had good reasons to stop them from operating in India at all.

With crime on the increase in New York, Mr. Bradley, as was suggested by A Special Correspondent in this paper last week, should return to his native land and use his apparently unlimited funds for "persuading" teenage hoodlums to leave crime well alone.

If Mr. Bradley chooses to ignore the beam in his (U. S.) eye, then everybody has a right to suspect Mr. Bradley's motives for distributing largesse in Asian lands.

Ceylon Flag

It would appear that a party of schoolboys from one of the leading colleges of Kandy went on an educational tour recently. Among other towns they went to Trincomalee. The "special" bus they travelled in sported a colourful Lion Flag.

This busload of students obtained permission from the relevant authorities to see the Naval Dockyards. But on entering naval territory, they were called upon to haul down the Ceylon Flag. They were told that they could fly only the Union Jack (if they chose to.) Anxious to see the Dockyards, the Ceylon Flag was staked away as long as the bus was in naval "territory".

This incident throws illuminating light as to who is really master of Trincomalee. The *Guardian* has recently published statements from Admiralty officials which indicated that they considered Trincomalee a British base. The External Affairs Ministry has chosen to deny these statements in a rather half-hearted sort of way.

This flag incident shows that the aging British Lion, propped up by Uncle Sam, would like to put up its tail once in a way.

Food Department

A certain official in the Food Department has been at great pains to find out how the Commercial Correspondent of this paper got the details about the Sugar Contracts. This official rang up several places including a telephone next to the *Tribune* office (*Tribune* phone has been approved but not yet connected) in his quest to find out how the information became available.

If this official does not already know it, it is time he does that newspapers do not reveal the sources of their information. If the official thinks that some information is wrong he should release the correct facts. But this official has still not questioned the correctness of the facts set out by the Commercial Correspondent.

THE INDIAN BANK LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of India—Liability of Members is Limited).

| | | |
|----------------------------|----|-----------------|
| AUTHORISED CAPITAL | .. | Rs. 1,00,00,000 |
| SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL | .. | 72,00,000 |
| CALLED AND PAID UP CAPITAL | .. | 57,55,865 |
| RESERVE FUNDS | .. | 64,50,000 |
| DEPOSITS AS ON 30-6-53 | .. | 22,15,00,878 |

HEAD OFFICE:

NORTH BEACH ROAD, MADRAS

Over 80 Branches throughout Madras Presidency, Bombay and Delhi.

OVERSEAS BRANCHES:

SINGAPORE - KUALA LUMPUR - PENANG - MALACCA - COLOMBO

Agents & Correspondents in all the important centres of the World —

London Agents—WESTMINSTER BANK LTD.

New York Agents—NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

Foreign Bills negotiated and Letters of Credit opened in all centres for approved constituents.

Current and Savings Accounts are opened and Fixed Deposits received.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION IS CONDUCTED

The Little Hunch Back

In the City of Casgar there formerly lived a tailor, who had the good fortune to possess a very beautiful wife. One day, while the tailor was at work in his shop, a little hunchback fellow came and sat down at the door and began playing on a tymbal, which he accompanied with his voice. The tailor was much pleased with this performance, and resolved to carry him home that he might entertain his wife.

Immediately after their arrival, the tailor's wife placed before them a dish of fish; but as the little man was eating, he unluckily swallowed a bone, which, notwithstanding all that the tailor and his wife could do, choked him. This accident greatly alarmed them both, lest they should be punished as murderers. Now it so happened that a doctor, a Jew, lived close by, and the tailor and his wife devised a scheme for placing the body of the dwarf in his house. On their knocking at the door, the servant-maid came down without any light, and asked what they wanted. "Go and tell your master," said the tailor, putting a piece of money in her hand, "we have brought him a man who is ill, and want his advice." While the servant was gone up to inform her master, the tailor and his wife hastily conveyed the body of the hunchback, supposed to be dead, to the head of the stairs, and leaving it there, hurried away.

In the meantime the doctor, transported with joy at being paid beforehand, hastily ran towards the head of the stairs without waiting for a light, and came against the body of the hunchback with so much violence, that he precipitated it to the bottom. Bring me a light!" cried he to the maid. At last she brought a light, and he went downstairs with her, but when he saw what he had done, "Unhappy man that I am!" said he. "I have killed the poor fellow. The authorities will come and drag me out of my house as a murderer." The doctor then called his wife, and consulted with her to dispose of the dead body during the night. The doctor could not think of any stratagem to relieve his embarrassment but his wife said: "A thought has

All the magnificence of the Orient is reflected in the tales of "Thousand and One Night." Handed down to posterity by story tellers, these fairy-tales contain the deep practical philosophy and the subtle humour of the Oriental peoples. Just as the wise Calif Harun al Raschid millions after him listened these wonderful tales, which have become an established part of world literature.

just come into my head; carry the dead body to the terrace of our house, and let it down the chimney of our Mussulman neighbour."

This Mussulman was one of the sultan's purveyors for furnishing oil, butter, and articles of similar nature, and had a magazine in his house, where the rats and mice made prodigious havoc.

The Jewish doctor approving the proposed expedient, his wife and he took the little dwarf, and placing ropes under his armpits, let him down the chimney into the purveyor's chamber so dexterously that he stood upright against the wall, as if he had been alive.

They were scarcely got back, when the purveyor went into his room and discovered a human figure standing in his chimney. "It is you, who came down the chimney to rob me? However, I think you will have no wish to come here again." Upon this he attacked the hunchback, and struck him several times with a stick. But observing that the body did not move, he stood a little time to regard it. "Wretched man that I am!" said he; "what have I done! I have killed a man!" On a sudden he took up the body and carried it to the end of the street where he placed it in an upright posture against a shop.

A few minutes before daybreak, a wealthy Christian merchant, coming home from a night's festivity, passed by the spot where the purveyor had put the dead body, which being jostled by him, tumbled upon the merchant's back. The merchant, thinking he was attacked by a robber, knocked it down and cried out "Thieves! The

outery alarmed the watch who came up immediately. "What reason have you," said he, to "abuse a Mussulman in this manner?" "He would have robbed me," replied the merchant. "It is thus that a Christian dares to assassinate a Mussulman?" So saying, he laid hold of the Christian and carried him to the house of the *cadi* who ordered a stake to be prepared, and sent criers all over the city to proclaim that they were about to empale a Christian for killing a Mussulman.

The executioner was just about to fasten him to the stake, when the purveyor pushed through the crowd, calling him to stop, for that the Christian had not committed the murder, but he himself had done it. "Let the Christian go," said the *cadi*, "and empale this man in his stead, since it appears by his own confession that he is guilty." But just as he was going to empale him, he heard the voice of the Jewish doctor, earnestly entreating him to suspend the execution, as he was the real criminal. Accordingly the doctor was just going to be empaled, when the tailor appeared, crying in his turn, that he comes to make his confession to the *cadi*, as he was the person really answerable for the death of the hunchback.

While all this was passing, the sultan, who never passed any length of time without seeing the little hunchback, who was his buffon ordered him in to his presence. But on hearing the story of the hunchback, the sultan ordered, to bring all the accused persons before him. As soon as they all were come into the presence of the sultan a barber took the head of the hunchback between his knees, and after he had examined him steadfastly said: "The dwarf is not dead." Then he rubbed hunchback's neck a long time and draw out the fishbone, which he showed to all who were present. Soon hunchback sneezed and all signs of life.

The sultan did not send away the Tailor, Jewish doctor, purveyor, and Christian merchant till he had given each of them a very rich robe that they might remember the adventure which the accident of hunchback had occasioned to them, with pleasure. As for the barber, he honored him with a great pension, and kept him near his person.

JUSTICE MUST BE DONE

Continued from page 5

We have no such ideas. We respect the Indians, we love the Indians, we admire them. There is hardly any difference, with regard to the view of my friends (Dewan Bahadur I. X. Pereira), and myself when we think of it. My friend says: "We want full citizenship." I tell him: 'If you live here we will embrace you'."

This is an important statement of national policy laid down on a historic occasion by the Leader of the State Council speaking on behalf of the Government of this country. It clearly implies that if only the Indian labour population of this country will live amongst us permanently and make Ceylon their home they will be "embraced" by the Ceylonese, to use the picturesque language of Mr. Senanayake, and granted full citizenship rights.

Major Industries

There can be no question that if the present Indian labour population is necessary for the proper functioning of our major industries it will be in the national interest to afford the necessary facilities to enable these workers to become Ceylonese citizens rather than to keep them always as hired labourers from a foreign land. Even the absorption of the entire Indian labour population on the plantations into the Ceylonese nation will prove a source of strength to us, increase the efficiency of Indian labour and prevent our continued dependence on the whims and fancies of the Indian Government.

Besides, in course of time not even a small fraction of the money earned by Indian labour will leave the shores of Ceylon and thus the economic position of the country will be further strengthened.

Indian labour will thus attain to a new dignity which will be beneficial to the entire population and we will have all the peoples of this Island united by ties of common citizenship and loyalty to a common Motherland and all contributing by their labour to the common welfare.

In this situation, should we not receive with open arms every Indian labourer in Ceylon who genuinely expresses a desire to become a citizen of this country? One would have thought that the statement of policy adumbrated above and national self interest alike would make us adopt this step.

U. S. A.

This is what happened in America. Men and women from practically every European country flocked to America for employment and under the American law the children of these foreigners born in America were deemed to be American citizens even though their parents had not become naturalised American subjects. This was done because the Americans felt that it was a source of economic and political weakness to permit foreign labour to be employed in America without affording to it facilities to identify itself with the country.

But what do we find in Ceylon today. Every conceivable step is adopted to prevent these Indian labourers who came to Ceylon on the promise of full citizenship rights from attaining this status. The fact that these labourers are herded together in lines on estates apart from the rest of the population with no facilities for normal civilised intercourse is utilised to argue that they do not identify themselves with the indigenous population. It is the fault of the Government of this country that it did not provide for these labourers out of the revenue obtained from their their labour separate village settlements in place of these lines where they could live and move as free men and establish contacts with the rest of the population.

Descent

Then the Indian Labourer is told that he cannot be granted full citizenship rights unless he and his father were born in Ceylon and his grandfather had at least a domicile of choice in Ceylon evidenced by an intention to permanently settle down here. Does the formulation of such a rigid test show an

anxiety to assimilate the Indian labourer or to prevent such assimilation? Does it appear to accord with the statement of policy so eloquently proclaimed by Mr. Senanayake? An Indian worker may be able to prove that he and his father were born in Ceylon but how is he to prove his grandfather's intention?

His grandfather might have been like him a worker on a plantation. As such a worker if the grandfather had intended to become a permanent resident of Ceylon what is it that he could have done except to live in his lowly line room on the plantation working in fair weather and in foul to eke out an existence?

In the case of an Indian business man, who had a rich grandfather, it might be possible to establish an intention to permanently reside in Ceylon by showing that this grandfather sold all his lands in India and bought houses in Ceylon or that he lived in his own house here or that his correspondence or declarations or contemporaneous documents showed this intention. In the case of the Indian Labourer it is nothing but a cruel mockery to suggest such a test.

Permanent Home

One simple way in which an Indian labourer can easily establish his intention to make Ceylon his permanent home is by acquiring land here and developing it and living on it. He has no means to purchase any private land and he is told that he must become a citizen of Ceylon before he can get Crown land. No land, no citizenship! No citizenship, no land!

Besides

Besides, why should any Indian labourer who came into this Island prior to 1930 have troubled to establish a domicile of choice in Ceylon as he was assured of full citizenship rights here not with standing his allegiance to India.

If there is any sincerity in our professions to afford to the Indian labourer citizenship rights in Ceylon why should we not grant to

Continued on page 13

people was universally recognized. Now, only a few voices are raised in protest, although the principle is exactly the same."

Colonialism

The pamphlet is a trenchant exposure of the abomination of colonialism. But the moment its author turns from the facts to the conclusions that must inescapably follow, he ceases to be the impartial investigator. His concluding chapter is captioned "What To Do." Its contents, however, would suggest that the caption means: what is to be done to perpetuate British domination in Kenya? What Fenner Brockway suggests is "a planned advance from racial discrimination and segregation to interracial democracy and equality." Some of his concrete proposals appear to be progressive enough on the surface. For instance, he speaks of the need to set up democratic local government, give the Africans land, remove the colour bar, raise the wages of the African worker, etc.

But even a cursory examination of this program brings out all its hypocrisy. Instead of a fundamental redivision of land in favour of the Africans, Fenner Brockway recommends a curtailed agrarian reform which would do nothing to eliminate land hunger among the Africans and would only help to foster illusions about the "good intentions" of the colonialists. Further, he suggests that the desert and semi-desert areas, "which could be made cultivable," be handed over to the Africans and that the Kikuyu be given land at the expense of their neighbours, the Masai tribe. "Agrarian reforms" of this kind smack very much of the divide and rule policy. Their only result would be to sow discord among the various tribes.

Exposure

But for all the bias of its author who favours retention of colonial government, the pamphlet is a good eyewitness exposure of the brutality of British colonial policies. This Labour leader perhaps set out to show how the 'secret Mau Mau society' originated. But

every Indian labourer who has been born in Ceylon, or who has resided and worked in this country for over five years, and who unequivocally disclaims all Indian citizenship rights and applies for Ceylon citizenship such rights on a basis of complete equality with the rest of the Island's population?

Is there any valid economic or political reason against such a step? Is there any racial argument against such a step? Have not the Indian population settled on the coast line from Mannar to Negombo in recent times been absorbed in the rest of the community on account of facilities being afforded to them to associate with the indigenous peoples, and is not their absorption a source of strength to us?

The fact remains that a very large proportion of what is called Indian labour on the plantations is permanently settled down in Ceylon. Many of them have been born here. In the case of a large number of them their parents and grand-parents have lived and worked on these plantations and after their death have been buried there. They have out of their meagre earnings contributed to the maintenance of temples and shrines on these plantations at which they and their children and their ancestors have worshipped their gods and obtained solace. Most of them know of no other home but the lineroom on their estates. They work on in sunshine and in rain just as their ancestors did in the past, isolated from the general stream of life and with a fatalistic outlook on their future.

actually, and probably unwittingly, he has built up a case for the Kenya people's struggle against British colonial oppression. His readers will see that the widespread liberation movement in Kenya is no chance development, and that the Mau Mau terror stores are being spread with a definite purpose. The national-liberation movement is the legitimate reply of the native population to the savagery and race hatred of British colonial rule.

A. L.

No Country, no home,

When an Indian labourer is ejected from his line-room with his little bundle of belongings he does not know where to go unless he is provided with work on another estate where he will have the good fortune of occupying another line-room until he is ejected when he must take to the road once again. No home, no village, no country, no hope outside yet another line-room in another plantation!

This is the stark reality of their lives despite all the benefits that are supposed to have been showered upon them. The dictates of reason and national self-interest and every instinct of humanity demand that this blot on our national life should be removed once and for all by granting to these men who have sacrificed so much for so little without even a knowledge of the magnitude of their work and its worth to the community full rights of citizenship if they demand it in clear and unmistakable terms.

It is thus that we can give effect to the declaration made by Mr. Senanayake in the State Council in the course of his historic speech which would otherwise be nothing but evidence of blatant hypocrisy unworthy of a great people.

Indian labour in Ceylon has an answerable case which must be placed before the Bar of Ceylonese public opinion.

GURU SANJEEVY PILLS:-

Sovereign remedy for all kinds of fevers, cough, indigestion etc. Excellent remedy for all complaints of children, and a boon for the old. Very much appreciated by H. H. Sree Swamy Sivanandaji Maharaj of Rishikesh, Maharajah of Jeypore and other eminent personalities.

Packet of 25 pills ... 0-8-0

Bottle of 100 pills ... 1-8-0

Postage Extra.

Rao Saheb M. Appalarasiah,
Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. (Retd.)
Maharanipeta P. O.
VISAKHAPATNAM 2.

National Languages and Education

Continued from page 3

was premature at that time, was it not the duty of the Department in charge of the subject to point it out to the authorities concerned?

Whatever that may be it is hardly necessary for us to find out who is at fault in this matter. We have only to face facts and try to arrive at a decision as to what best can be done under the present circumstances. For one thing, as far as I can see the Government cannot possibly recede from the position it has taken up in regard to the question of official languages, nor can the Higher Education Commission under the present terms of reference tender any helpful advice to Government for a successful solution of this problem.

In this situation it seems to be advisable for the Government either to revise the terms of reference already issued to the present Commission, or to appoint a Departmental Committee to draw up a scheme for giving regular effect to the declared policy in regard to the secondary education through the national media. In any event, the present official languages policy of the Government can continue without a break, because the plan formulated by the official Languages Commission is elastic enough to stand any strain.

Higher Education

What is normally regarded as higher education includes not only University studies but also the studies at what is now called the part secondary collegiate level. In the terms of reference only the University has been cited, besides the Senior Secondary Schools, ignoring the Collegiate Schools altogether. But this is only by the way and it does not affect our discussion on Higher Education.

There seems to be a notion—a wrong notion, if I may say so—that which is understood by the medium of administration or official language must necessarily be identical with the medium of instruction in the University.

This same idea seems to have been kept in view when the terms of reference issued to the present Commission were drafted. The Commission itself has gone in the same strain in framing its questionnaire, but there was obviously no help for it. As I have already submitted a plan for the introduction of national media into the University, I may be permitted to repeat it here for what it is worth.

Research

The University can by no means ignore the fact that the two national languages—more especially the Sinhalese language—are not yet sufficiently developed to satisfy the modern demands of higher studies. I have shown some of these defects in modern Sinhalese in one of my contributions to the University of Ceylon Review in 1945. The University must therefore plan a development scheme with provision for all the incidental research. All this must be mainly within the University itself, but with adequate help and co-operation from outside scholars. It seems to be necessary for the University to appoint a planning committee, with a Professor as Chairman, to direct all research and other activities connected with the project. As an institution subsidized by Government with public funds, the University will probably not hesitate to undertake this—a very difficult task though it is.

Once an internal organization is set up in this manner, the members of the present staff of the University can easily be persuaded to undergo a certain amount of training and to do some pioneering work under the scheme. Those of them who succeed in acquiring a working knowledge of Sinhalese or Tamil, in addition to the expert knowledge and teaching experience which they already possess in respect of their own subjects will be the real pioneers in this great enterprise.

Bilingual

They will not only lay the necessary foundation for the development of the national languages,

but will also pave the way for a generation of bilingual (English *cum* Sinhalese or Tamil) scholars who will succeed them and who alone will be competent to work up a systematic change-over in all its manifold details. This, to my mind, seems to be the only procedure that merits adoption at University level; for, on the one hand, it allows sufficient time for the assimilation of knowledge in the national medium, and, on the other, it tends to promote organized research in a very desirable field.

The holding of superior service examinations through the national languages is a question vastly different from a long-term scheme such as the one outlined above and it must be examined from a different point of view. I am sure the Commission will be able to draw up a scheme for this purpose after hearing the evidence of the teaching staff of the University and others competent to give evidence on the subject. The direction given in the second part of the terms of reference affords ample scope for all the necessary investigations in the matter.

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Office:

109-2/5, Dam Street,
COLOMBO 12.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year .. Rs. 7.50
Half Year .. Rs. 4.00

Special Introductory Offer

2 Years .. Rs. 13.50
1½ Years .. Rs. 10.50

Please make your cheques
payable to "Manager, Tribune"

Rates for Foreign Countries
on application.

U. S. OPPOSE NEUTRALITY POLICY

MEDICAL CONSEQUENCES

Continued from page 7

"will not take part in military blocs, for this would be contrary to her foreign policy, which aims at maintaining peace, friendship and co-operation among the nations".

Indonesian public and governmental opinion are strongly behind the joint declaration of Prime Ministers Nehru and Chou-En-lai setting forth five principles of a peaceful foreign policy between nations.

Owing to the provocative attitude of the U. S., Indonesia is anxious to break free from Washington's economic influence. Already she has concluded trade agreements with Peoples' China, Czechoslovakia, U. S. S. R. and other Iron Curtain countries.

Subversive

In this situation, American agents are now turning subversive, and are unashamedly doing what they can to overthrow the present government.

It is freely stated in the local papers that American representatives maintain close contact with the Masjumi and other rea-

ctionary right-wing leaders through an intelligence agent by the name of Campbell. It is now in knowledgeable circles that a U. S. agency subsidizes parties opposed to the Sastroridjojo government.

Just now they are busy building up a reactionary bloc for the forthcoming parliamentary elections. They are paying particular attention to the armed terrorist bands of Dar-ul-Islam operating in the rural areas. According to reports from circles close to government, these gangs numbering about 70,000 men, are inquired by American agents and are armed with foreign weapons brought from the Philippines by plane and submarine. The Dar-ul-Islam gangs have two U. S. advisers, named Smith and Boseh attached to its headquarters.

These subversive attempts of the U. S. to drag Indonesia into SEATO have so far not been successful, but the government is vigilant. However, the activities of the Americans has made them totally unpopular in Indonesia. They can bribe a few stooges, but they cannot delude the masses who waged a protracted struggle against Dutch colonialists and Japanese occupationists for their Independence.

Continued from page 4
cataract, in the case of one, but a woman cataract was followed by Leuchaemia.

Liver

Animals used in experimental work accidentally contaminated by radio active metals, also showed damage of the liver and so we must also conclude that diseases of the liver, and even cancer of the liver is possible. Fragments of the metal which may be embedded in the body but not discovered for some time must also be borne in mind.

These metal fragments are neutral in the chemical sense but are conserving radioactivity over a long period. In consequence even the smallest chip will be able to cause incurable lesions. Observations on a rat, treated with metal Plutonium have shown that spinal tumour developed, although neither in the liquids of the body or its excrement was it possible to find any element of Plutonium. We must therefore suppose the possibility of development of tumours of the bone even in the case of "healthy" survivors of an A-bomb explosion.

The A-bomb and the H bomb are more destructive than all the explosive materials used by the Allied air-force during the second world war. The H-bomb explosion in the Pacific confirms this and the fate of the Japanese fisherman suffering from its radiation is still uncertain. Radioactivity can be used in the interest of mankind, but further explosions of radio active weapons would mean an immediate danger for the world population.

From "Deutsche Volkszeitung"



INTRODUCE A FRIEND

Fill in the name and address of a friend or acquaintance on the form below, and send it.

To

TRIBUNE

109 2/5, Dam Street, Colombo 12.

We shall be pleased to mail sample copies of the paper to him or her.

Name

Address

Sender

COMMUNITY

The International Magazine of Creative and Critical Writing on Current Affairs and the Arts, edited and published in Colombo.

Rs. 1/50 copy (Postage 12 cts);
Rs. 6-00 year (post free)

from 13, Macleod Road,
Colombo 4.

RUNNING TO CROWDED HOUSES

IN TWELVE CENTRES

in

COLOMBO AND OUTSTATIONS

**GAMINI MARADANA
SAPPHIRE WELLAWATTE
CINEMA OLYMPUS GALLE
CHANDRA AVISSAWELLA
SIRIMAHAL KULIYAPITIYA
RICHMOND AMBALANGODA
RATNAVALIE JA-ELA
WEMBLEY KANDY
QUINLON NUGEGODA
NEW CINEMA KURUNEGALA
NADARAJAH NEGOMBO
GEMINI CIRCUIT CHILAW**

THE BEST SINHALESE FILM

YET PRODUCED



A STORY THAT GRIPS, ACTING
THAT MOVES AND MUSIC
THAT LINGERS

Featuring

**RATNAKUMARI
CLARICE DE SILVA
NANCY DIAS
ROHINI JAYAKODDY
HUGO FERNANDO
RUPESENA
VINCENT WAAS
EDDIE YAPA**

*A film you must
not miss*