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AUG.-SEPT., 1954

CEYLON TODAY

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Today

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Departure of Viscount Soulbury

ON Saturday the 17th of July shortly before sundown and to the salute of 21 guns a launch moved off from the Colombo harbour's Passenger Jetty. It marked a significant moment in the history of our island for the launch was carrying with it Viscount Soulbury of Soulbury, the last of a long line of British administrators of Ceylon.

Leader-writers earlier throughout that week had not been slow in pointing out the implications and the significance of that moment. "The assumption of the office of Governor-General by a national of this country is a unique and historic occurrence", wrote a morning daily. "It is a new symbol of Ceylon's status as an independent country". It went on . . . "It will, at the same time, be a test of the capacity of a son of the soil to fill the highest office in the land in a manner worthy of its great traditions".

A new era begins . . . that seemed to be the line generally taken and some writers went so far as to draw a parallel between Viscount Soulbury's departure from Ceylon and Mountbatten's historic leave-taking of India.

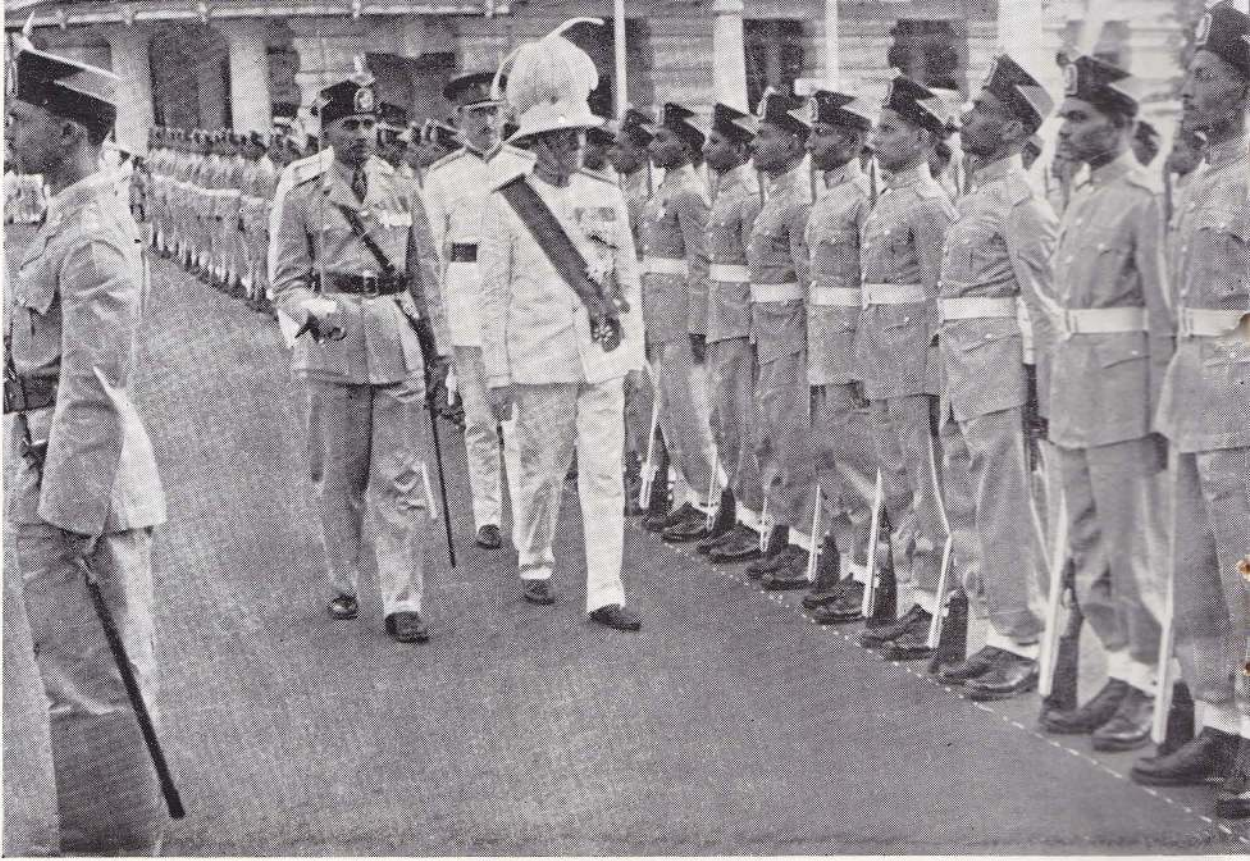
It would be idle to pretend that the farewell scenes on the 17th of July were marked by the high drama of Lord Louis Mountbatten's departure. This was a quieter, a more sober occasion. And this, if one might say so, was

itself, in a way, a tribute to our people and the methods by which our country freed herself from colonial rule.

As no real bitterness between the British and Ceylonese people marked the struggle for freedom in this country the scene that marked the departure of the last British Governor-General was also like the departure of and a farewell to an old friend. The Prime Minister summed up the feelings of the people when with a last hand shake he said, "I'll be seeing you in England". An era may have been ending, but it was coming to a close in the fitness of things, in the fullness of time.

Shortly after 5 o'clock the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, arrived at the Customs Building. His Cabinet colleagues, the leading members of the various religious denominations, members of the Diplomatic Corps and a large number of distinguished citizens and their wives were already there.

His Excellency's route to the Passenger Jetty was along Prince Street and then along Duke Street. Troops, police and other Associations with which Viscount Soulbury had been intimately connected lined the roads and His Excellency himself was accompanied by a mounted police escort.



His Excellency inspecting the Guard of Honour drawn up outside the Customs Building

Viscount Soulbury inspected a Guard of Honour drawn up outside the Customs building and then, accompanied by the Prime Minister, went in to shake hands and say a word or two of farewell to the Ministers, diplomats, religious dignitaries and his personal friends. To the group of Buddhist priests who had assembled to bid him adieu the Viscount said farewell in Oriental fashion.

Earlier, indeed from the moment Her Majesty the Queen made the announcement, Viscount Soulbury had begun his rounds of farewells. One of the last, and perhaps one of the most important of these was the public dinner on the night of July 10, given in his honour and over which Sir John Kotelawala himself presided.

Speaking at this Dinner Lord Soulbury said :

“During the last five years I have made a great many speeches—perhaps too many—

but the speech I wish to make this evening is the most difficult of all, for it is almost impossible for me to find words with which to express my intense feelings of gratitude and thankfulness to all my friends here, and to all my other friends in this lovely Island.

That such a large number, continued Lord Soulbury, should assemble here tonight to do me honour and to bid me farewell is an unforgettable experience. I am more grateful to you than I can say for the help and encouragement that you have given to me during my term of office and for the goodwill and courtesy that have been extended to me by men and women from all ranks of life, from the highest to the lowest, from the Prime Minister and the Members of his Government to the humblest Peon.

In the nature of things, I shall soon be looking backwards instead of forwards and

finding retrospect much more agreeable than prospect, and it pleases me to think that the evening of my days will be brightened by the glow of the recollection of my very happy years in Ceylon.

A great poet has said that man in his time plays many parts. Of the various parts that I have tried to play, the part that I have played on the stage of Ceylon, has been, for me, much more congenial and interesting and memorable than any other part.

The same poet tells us that we all have our exits and our entrances. My entrance to Ceylon five years ago as Governor-General and the warm-hearted friendliness of your welcome to me on that occasion remain fresh in my memory, and so will the warmth of the farewell which you are now giving to me upon my exit.

In a few weeks I shall be several thousands of miles away from Ceylon, but the separation

will only be physical, for my thoughts and good wishes will be with you always. And whenever and wherever it is in my power to render assistance of any kind to Ceylon or her people, it will be a real happiness to me to be given the opportunity of so doing".

On the night of the 16th of July, Viscount Soulbury gave his farewell broadcast. This is what he said :

"I am speaking to you from Queen's House this evening, and for the last time, for I am leaving tomorrow for England.

The five years which I have spent here have been amongst the happiest and busiest of my life, and I shall never forget the kindness, politeness and friendliness shown to me by everyone during my period of office as your Governor-General.

In my first broadcast on my arrival five years ago, I recorded my admiration of the

His Excellency says good-bye to the monks after the manner of the East





Viscount Soulbury with Sir Richard Aluvihare, the Inspector-General of Police

remarkable speed and ease with which Ceylon had assumed her position as a free and independent member of the Commonwealth to which you and I belong. Nothing has happened since then to lessen my admiration, for your country has given ample proof of its competence to conduct its own affairs. Moreover, Ceylon has also played a notable part in the affairs of the Eastern hemisphere. The Colombo

Conference in 1950 and the Conference of Asian Prime Ministers held here a few months ago are milestones on the road to the prosperity and tranquility of that region.

I went on to say in my broadcast in July, 1949, that never before had my country been nearer to yours in thought and sympathy. Today, five years later, I can say with certainty that my country has been drawn much nearer to you still, for the wonderful welcome you gave to The Queen has profoundly touched the hearts of the British people and of the peoples of your other sister nations in the Commonwealth.

Her presence here made all of us realise that a charming and gracious human personality binds the nations far more closely together than formal treaties and agreements or self-interest or any other material factor.

And it is indeed necessary that the closest possible friendship and co-operation should exist between us all in this very difficult and dangerous period of the world's history.

When the poet wrote—

'A thousand years scarce serve to form a State ;

One hour may lay it in the dust ',

he prophesied more truly than he knew.

In a few days time I shall be several thousands of miles away from you, but you may be absolutely sure that my regard and affection

Viscount Soulbury with Mr. S. Natesan, Minister of Posts and Broadcasting





Viscount Soulbury has a last word with Dr. Cuneo, the Italian Minister in Ceylon

for this Island and its people will never be diminished. I shall at all times do everything I can to further the interests and enhance the reputation of Ceylon as long as I live.

And I hope that you will keep a corner in your memory for me and that you will continue to cherish your friendship for my country—England.

May I quote to you some words spoken by the Right Honourable the late Mr. D. S.

Senanayake in the House of Representatives on 9th November, 1945, nearly nine years ago—

“There is England”, he said, “with whom we have been associated for so long. May our association with England be strengthened with the power we get, and may we and they, as free peoples, continue to aid each other and help each other in the future”.

I think that those were wise words and I fervently hope that they will be the wish of both our countries for evermore.

Good friends always keep in touch with each other and I shall be assuredly keep in touch with you and watch your progress with intense interest and sympathy.

Like my own country, and every other country, you have made mistakes and you may make many more, and things will not always go smoothly. But I know that you will, as in the past, take the shadows with the sunshine and that you will preserve those gifts of tolerance, good manners, good humour and cheerfulness which have endeared the humblest villager to every visitor to these shores.

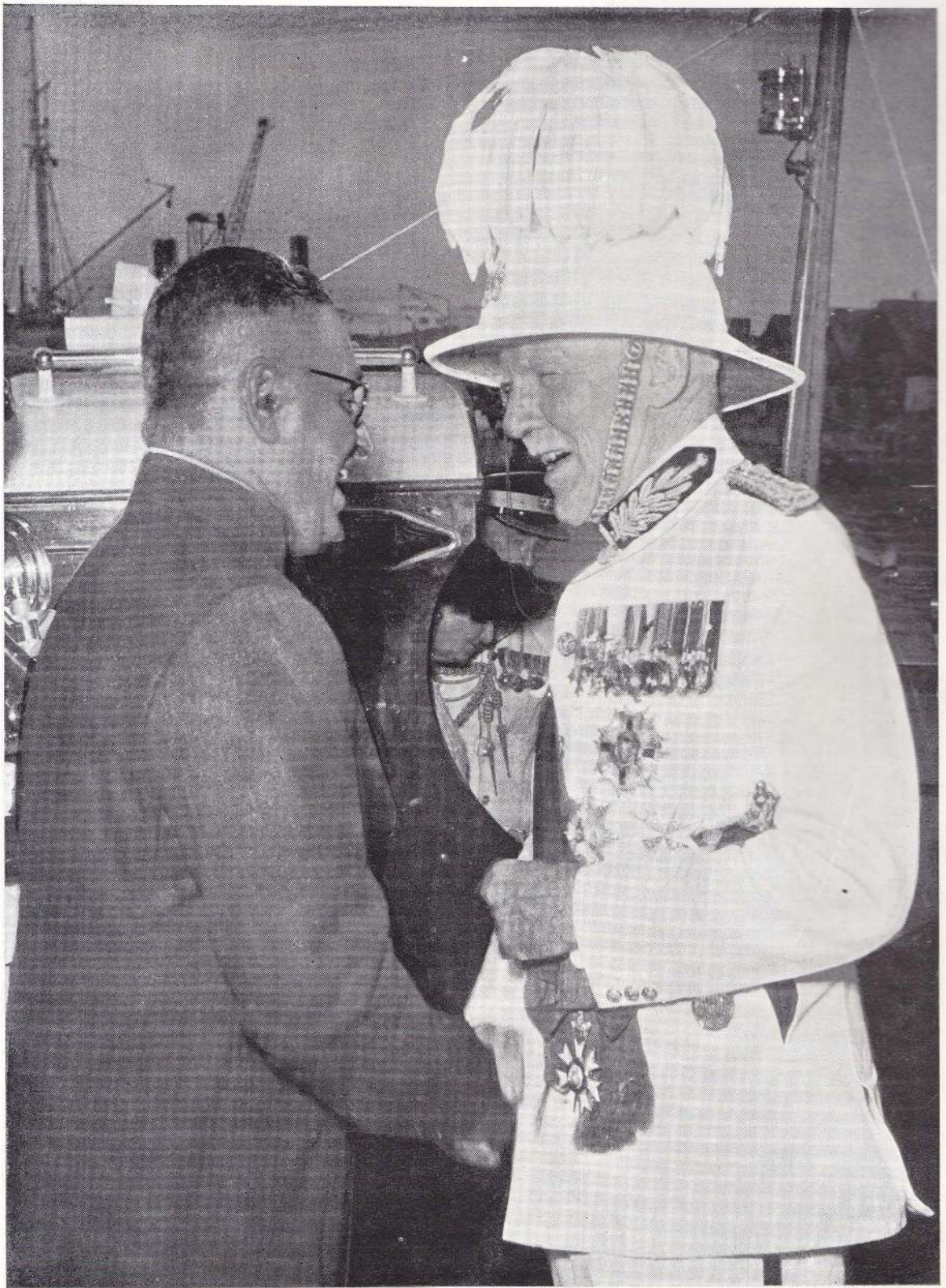
One of your old proverbs says—“Take a ploughman from the plough and wash off his dirt and he is fit to rule a kingdom”.

Like many another old proverb, there is still a lot of truth in that proverb today.

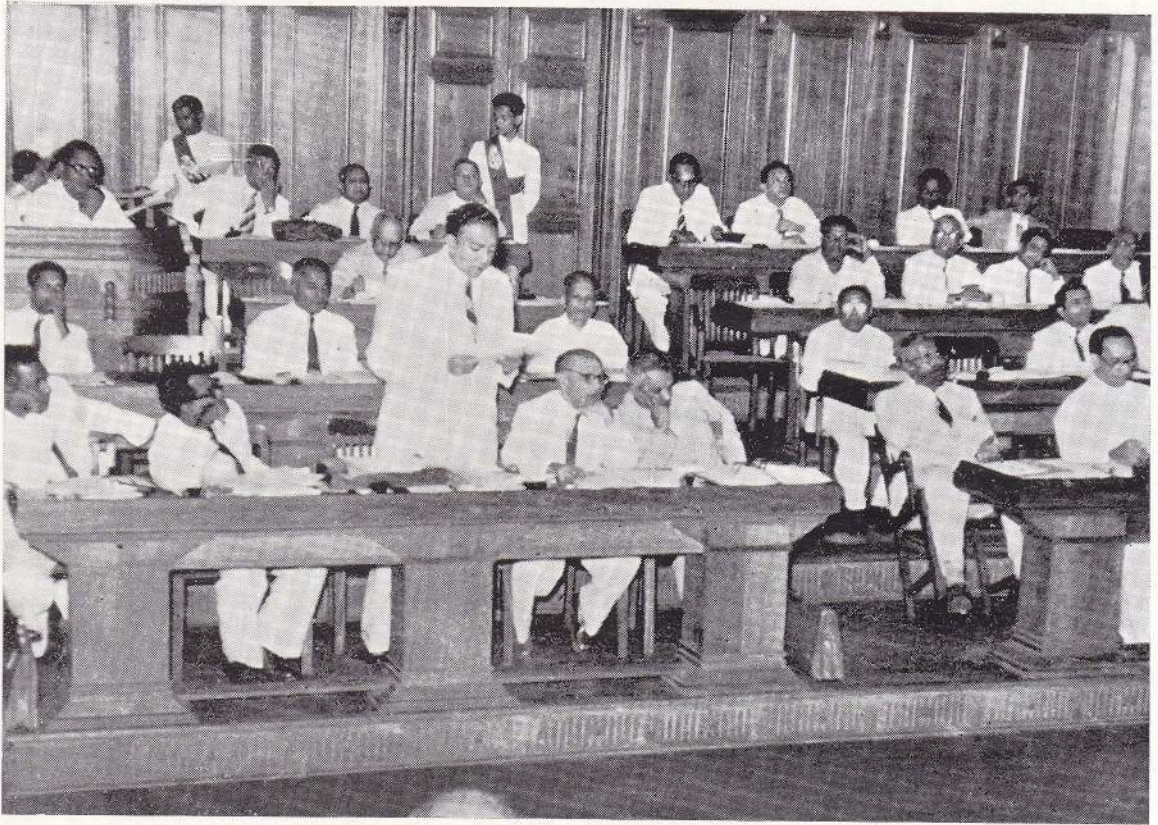
I have a profound confidence and faith in the future of this country, and you must all have the same confidence and faith in its destiny. Without faith you can achieve nothing for, in the words of my successor, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, “They only can succeed who believe they can”.

And now I must say goodbye. And may I once more thank you from the depth of my heart for the unfailing courtesy and support which I have received from you all while I have been in Ceylon.

I wish you an ever increasing measure of happiness and prosperity and I pray that peace and tranquility may be with you always”.



A final word and a handshake, The Prime Minister with Viscount Soulbury



The Minister of Finance, the Hon. Mr. M. D. H. Jayawardane, presenting his first Budget in the House of Representatives

In Parliament

THE New Minister of Finance, the Hon. Mr. M. D. H. Jayawardane, made his first Budget speech in the House of Representatives on July 8th. The Finance Minister prefaced his speech with a tribute to his immediate predecessor, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, for his record of service.

Referring to the London Loan, he said that the fact that it was over-subscribed in a very short time indicated the confidence that overseas investors had in this country. In addition to the U. K. Loan, the Government had successfully negotiated a loan of 19.1 million dollars from the International Bank for Reconstruction

and Development, to finance the external costs of Stage II A of the Hydro-Electric Scheme.

The Finance Minister then referred to the capital aid this country had been receiving from countries and agencies outside and said that Ceylon had received aid to the value of Rs. 30 million under the Colombo Plan.

External Assets

HE emphasized that the country's budgetary policy was very closely influenced by the position of external assets. His aim was to maintain

a minimum of Rs. 650-750 million and not Rs. 450 million as suggested by the World Bank, since wide fluctuations in the balance of payments and terms of trade had taken place recently.

Financial Objectives

HE next defined the financial objectives of the Government and dwelt on the financial prospects for 1954-55. He said that on the one hand there was the urgent need to stimulate as fast a rate of economic development as was practicable. On the other hand there was the need to maintain conditions of reasonable financial stability. Their whole policy, emphasized the Finance Minister, in the formulation of the Budget was the realization of the objective of economic development and financial stability.

He said that the need for financial stability at the present time required a budget which did not plan for substantial deficits. It required a budget which was more or less in overall balance and which would not impose an excessive strain on the country's balance of payments. That was the principal decision they made in connection with the budget for 1954-55. Their total expenditure would not exceed their revenue plus the receipt from the loans they have recently received from abroad.

Economic Development

THE Finance Minister asserted that the Government's objective of economic development too had certain specific implications. The purpose of development must be to raise the level of investment so that in conjunction with other economic measures aggregate production would begin to rise more rapidly than population. In Ceylon the field of economic development was not monopolized by the Government. Hence they fully expected the private sector of the economy to play its part in the process of development. Their objective of promoting economic development implied that the share of capital expenditure in the total budget should be relatively high.

Referring to capital expenditures, he said that provision had been made for a total amount of Rs. 260.5 million in the budget for 1954-55 and this figure was considerably higher than in previous years. It was one indication of the intensified efforts they have been making to sustain and even expand the development programme.

New Projects

THE Finance Minister said that in 1954-55, they would be starting work on a number of important projects which would be of substantial benefit to the community. The projects are Stage II A of the Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Fisheries Harbour in Mutwal, the Housing Scheme of the Government, the Kalatuwawa Water Supply Scheme and the Walawe Scheme. In addition, some smaller irrigation schemes would be started this year. As much as 78.9 per cent. of capital expenditure would be utilized for projects of an economic nature.

Mr. Jayawardane next drew the attention of the House to the problem of financing the expenditures of the Government, both current and capital during 1954-55, and said that the total budgeted expenditure was Rs. 1,076.3 million. He said that they could anticipate a total revenue of Rs. 1,027.5 million during 1954-55 at the rates of taxation now in force. The main component of this figure are: Customs—Rs. 514.2 million, of which import duties are expected to provide Rs. 241.5 million and export duties Rs. 272.4 million; Income and Profits Tax, Estate Duty and Stamps—Rs. 237.4 million and Excise—Rs. 52.4 million. As a result new taxation would not be needed in order to attain the budgetary objective, which was to balance total expenditure with total revenues plus receipts from foreign loan.

New Fiscal Duties

THE Finance Minister then referred to the new import and export duties. The following additional local industries would now be able to

import capital machinery at the concessionary rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general as against the $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general which was the rate prevailing hitherto :—

Machinery for making exercise books and component parts of such machinery ; machinery for making safety matches and component parts for such machinery and semi-automatic paste mould glass blowing machines. Special boiling point spirit used for extracting vegetable oils will also have the concessionary general rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Components of and parts for wireless and radio will be admitted at 10 per cent. preferential and $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general as against the existing duty rate of 25 per cent. preferential and $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general. The duty on dyes and dye-stuffs have been reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general.

Concessions to Agriculture

THE Finance Minister said that as far as Agriculture was concerned, the following concessions would be granted :— Manure, including animal bones, which is used for paddy cultivation, would be allowed to be imported at the pre-1953 budget rate of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as against $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. last year. All dairy equipment and poultry farming apparatus, including incubators, would be allowed to be imported duty free. The duty on imported eggs is doubled from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per 100 as a further measure of protection to the local farming industry. Marine diesel engines to be fitted to fishing craft would be allowed the concessionary rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general as against the existing rate of $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general. Fish hooks other than ready-made hooks for dry fly fishing would be added to the list of articles for the fishing industry now allowed to be imported duty free.

In the case of sports materials, the existing rate of duty of 25 per cent. preferential and 35 per cent. general has been reduced to 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general.

New Car Duties

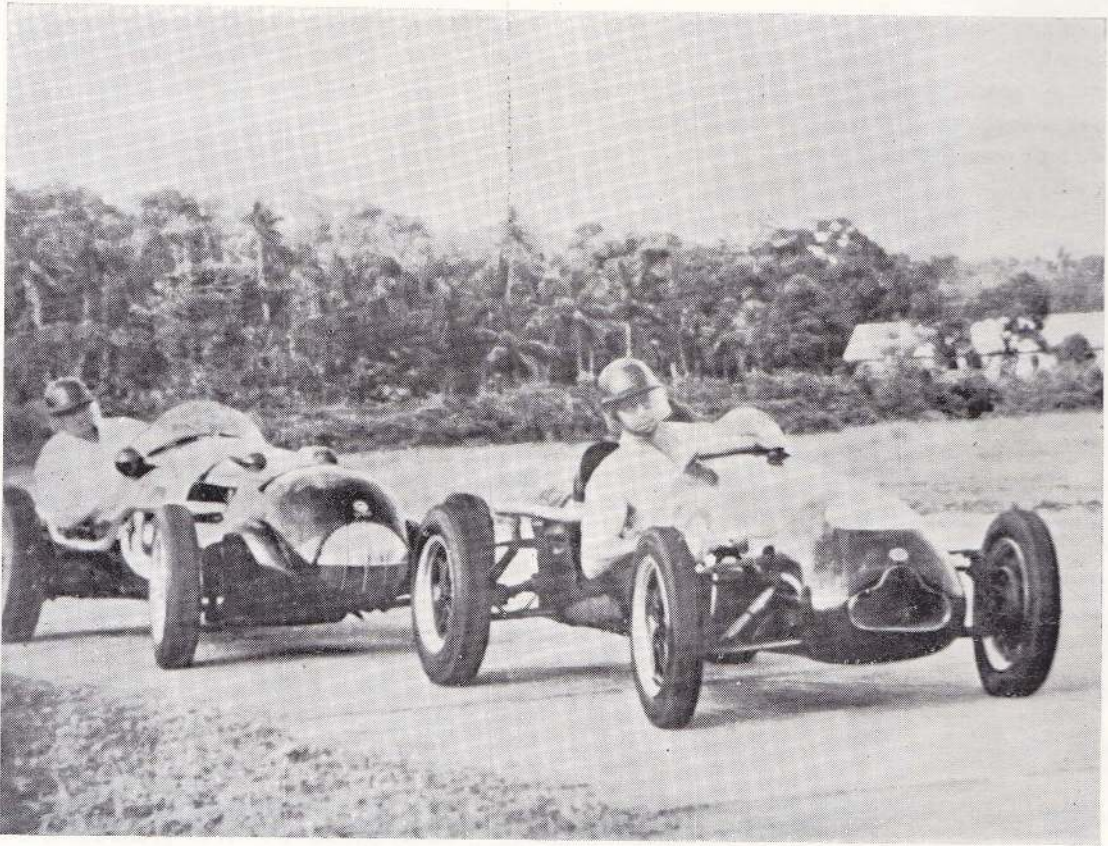
THE only other significant change in import duties was a new method of taxing motor cars which had hitherto been categorised for differential taxation on the basis of horse-power. Henceforth cars would be taxed on an *ad valorem* basis. Cars have been put into four categories and the duty of each category is slightly raised. The categories are—

- (a) The utility car carrying a rate of duty of 35 per cent. preferential and $42\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general.
- (b) The small deluxe car carrying a rate of duty of $42\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. preferential and 50 per cent. general.
- (c) The semi-luxury car carrying a rate of duty of 60 per cent. preferential and $67\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general.
- (d) The luxury car carrying a rate of duty of 80 per cent. preferential and $87\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. general.

As against this increase in the duty of motor cars, the duty on pedal bicycles and tricycles has been reduced to 5 per cent. preferential and 15 per cent. general.

Exports Duties

IN regard to export duties, the Finance Minister declared that there were only two changes—the reduction of the export duty on pepper from Rs. 1.50 per lb. to fifty cents per lb. and the increase of duty on cocoa from 25 cents per lb. to 50 cents per lb.



Two racing cars at the Katukurunda circuit

Motor Racing in Ceylon

A. D. BROOKS

CEYLON today is rapidly becoming a very mechanical-minded country. Since the war one of the biggest items amongst imports has been motor vehicles, and it is not surprising that along with this has developed a keen interest in motor sports.

This is not altogether a new development. In fact, Ceylon can claim in a sense to be the first country in Asia in which organized motor time trials took place. The Ceylon Motor Sports Club was formed in 1934 and in the same year it organized its first speed event—the Mahagastotte Hill Climb. This took place on the tea estate of

that name just outside Nuwara Eliya, the well-known town and health resort up in the hills in central Ceylon.

The course was some 680 yards long, rising to 600 feet via two hairpins and a number of lesser bends. It must have formed a tough obstacle to some of the earlier competitors, especially as the road had at that time a loose untarred surface. Since 1934, the Ceylon Motor Sports Club has organized this hill climb annually except for the short period during and just after the war. The hill has now been ascended in 50 seconds.

The C. M. S. C. also organizes annually another hill climb on Karandupona Estate where the road is well surfaced but narrow and very twisted and speeds consequently cannot be high. Karandupona is in the Badulla District, also in the central hills of Ceylon.

But in recent years genuine motor racing, such as is practised in circuits all over Europe and America, has caught the interest and imagination of competitors and public alike. With this renewed enthusiasm for speed, a second Motor Club sprung up—The Ceylon Motor Cycle Club—which was formed in 1946. And thus it came about that this younger Club, with all the vigour of its youth, has taken upon itself the task of organizing and promoting motor racing, while the older club contends itself with its two annual hill climbs.

The Motor Cycle Club

THE Motor Cycle Club has grown up in the six years of its existence to become by far the

larger of the two clubs and now has a membership of over 450 members and has developed an annual programme consisting of a mixture of airfield circuit and road races as well as a very popular Island-wide rally type of event—the Monsoon Reliability Trial.

The Club is perhaps unfortunately named because it does not, as its name may suggest, discriminate between its Motor Cycle members and those who prefer four wheels to travel on. It caters for both on equal terms in all its events.

Airfield circuit races are now held on the airstrip at Katukurunda near Kalutara, some 30 odd miles from Colombo. This race was formerly held at Ratmalana airport which is only a few miles outside the Municipal limits of the city of Colombo. Permission for the use of this latter venue has recently been withheld but it is hoped that it will be possible to use it again shortly as it has a number of advantages over Katukurunda,

A picture taken at the Kurunegala meet held on the 18th of July





A competitor taking a bend at the meet

The motor race meet at Kurunegala. A competitor overtaking a not-so-fortunate rider



the most important of which is its proximity to Colombo. It has also better facilities for competitors and spectators.

The circuit at Katukurunda consists of two straights of about half a mile linked by a wide hairpin at one end and two right-angled bends at the other. As, however, one of the straights is about fifty yards wide, there is considerable scope for introducing chicanes, i.e., artificial bends, and there is also an extension of the runway which can be used to form a second hairpin bend. The air-strip is however a somewhat desolate clearing in the surrounding coconut trees with virtually no buildings, shade or other facilities. It is perhaps one of the hottest places in the Island about mid-day.

Road races are held at a number of interesting venues on circuits ranging about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, each with its own very different characteristics. The shortest of these circuits is in Nuwara Eliya. This town has an altitude of



Two motor-cyclists negotiating a bend at high speed at the Kurunegala meet

over 6,000 feet and as such it makes carburettor adjustments necessary for the vehicles of those who have travelled up from the low-country to compete. Running around the outside of the racecourse the circuit offers excellent spectator facilities and a variety of corners which call for skill from competitors. But owing to its distance from Colombo and the vagaries of the weather in the hills, together with opposition from those who consider the smell of castrol R and the sound of open exhausts bad for neurotic racegoers, this circuit has fallen into disuse of late.

In Kandy

IN the historic town of Kandy, racing takes place on the tortuous road which encircles the beautiful lake. Owing to its numerous tight bends, (the shape may be compared to a corner piece

of a jig-saw puzzle), it is the slowest of all circuits. But nevertheless, it is a skill test for riders and drivers and more than one has been found to end up with a big splash in the lake. Besides being a real driver's circuit, it has excellent and safe facilities for spectators on the high banks which surround the greater part of the lake which give both a close-up view as well as a more extensive look-out across the lake.

Perhaps most popular of all the road circuits, however, is that of Kurunegala. The road race held here is one of the town's big annual events as well as a landmark on the motor racing calendar. It is both the fastest and longest of all courses in use and is roughly triangular in shape and some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. Indeed in Ceylon there can be few greater thrills for competitors than negotiating the right-hand bend after the start at about 80 miles an hour.



The illuminated Vel Cart on its return journey from Bambalapitiya to the Kathiresan Temple, Sea Street

The Vel Festival

UNLIKE other important celebrations Vel Festival which comes once a year is an occasion of popular rejoicing. Hindus and thousands of others irrespective of their faiths flock together from places near and far to pay their homage to Sri Murugan, the conqueror of the forces of evil and wickedness.

There will be no perplexity among the people if one says that they are fortunate as the Vel Festival comes immediately after the Kataragama Festival. The people who go on pilgrimage to the holy temple in the South on their way back make use of the opportunity in participating in the Ady Vel Festival, which takes place in Colombo.

In ancient times it was the custom among the devotees of Murugan to go on foot to Kataragama for the annual festival from different parts of Ceylon. The members of the Indian Chettriar (or Nagarathar) community who resided in Colombo used to go on foot to Kataragama carrying the Vel (the Spear of Sri Murugan). But later, due to Government action, the pilgrimage was banned. This might have been the unavoidable result of a series of epidemics that broke out in the early part of the 19th century. The Nagarathar community, reluctant to forego a time-honoured custom which they held dear to their hearts, thought out a new way of commemorating the annual event by adopting the Vel Festival in its present form which was to take the Vel in procession from the temples at Sea Street to the Kathiresan Temple of Wellawatta or Bambalapitiya. This, in brief, may be considered as the origin of the colourful Vel Festival.

On the morning of the first day the "Thanga Wikraham" (Golden image) of Vel Murugan is taken in procession to the Wellawatta Temple from Kathiresan Temple, Sea Street, Pettah. There it is kept for two days. During these two days thousands of devotees come to the temple and pay their homage to Lord Subramania by burning innumerable packets of camphor and

by breaking coconuts. By breaking the coconut the devotees show that their hearts are as pure as the kernel of a coconut. And by burning the camphor they believe that they are burning their sin in the flames of camphor. In short, these are done to rid themselves from evil, wickedness and sin.

The evening service starts with the peeling of the bells and more and more devotees make their way into the temple to participate in the devotions. Throughout the course of the festival camphor is burnt and as the smoke rises the emotions of the devotees become intense as they feel the presence of God.

The day ends and the lights are switched on. With the coloured electrical illuminations the whole place looks like a dreamland and reminds one of the holiness of the Heaven. After the evening service the Wikraham (of Velauthan) is placed in a beautifully decorated chariot. Another short service is conducted at the end of which a puranam is sung. The chariot drawn by two white bulls then starts its return journey home.

The gaily decorated chariot in which the image of Muruga Vel is placed is led along the road by Kavady dancers, Kewaga dancers, sannyasins and musicians. The chariot makes its way along the decorated route of Galle Road. On the way devotees pay their homage by breaking coconuts.

It takes several hours to reach the Kathiresan Temple. There the image of Murugan is taken away from the chariot. Cries of "Aro hara, Vel Vel Ady Vel" are heard. The image is taken to the Vasantha Mandapam and there another short service is conducted.

The festival which started with the shouts of

"Vel Vel Vetry Vel,
Vel Vel Ady Vel"

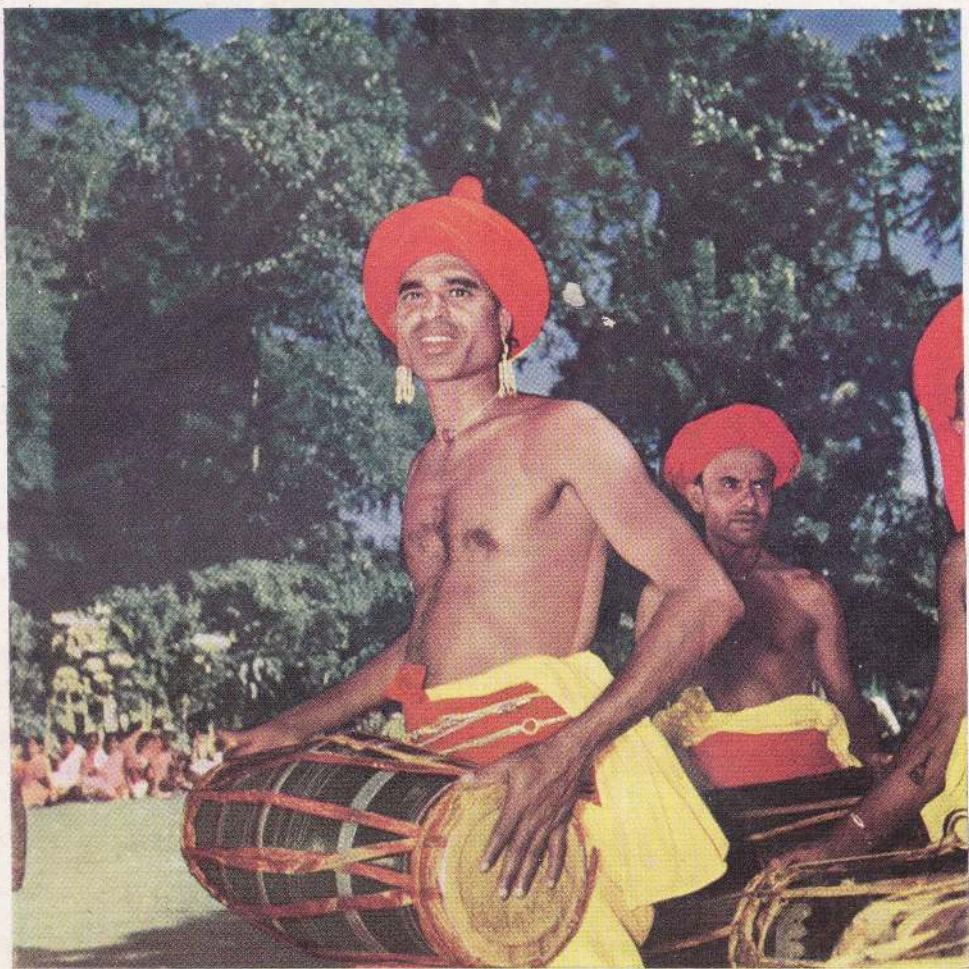
ends with the same cries.



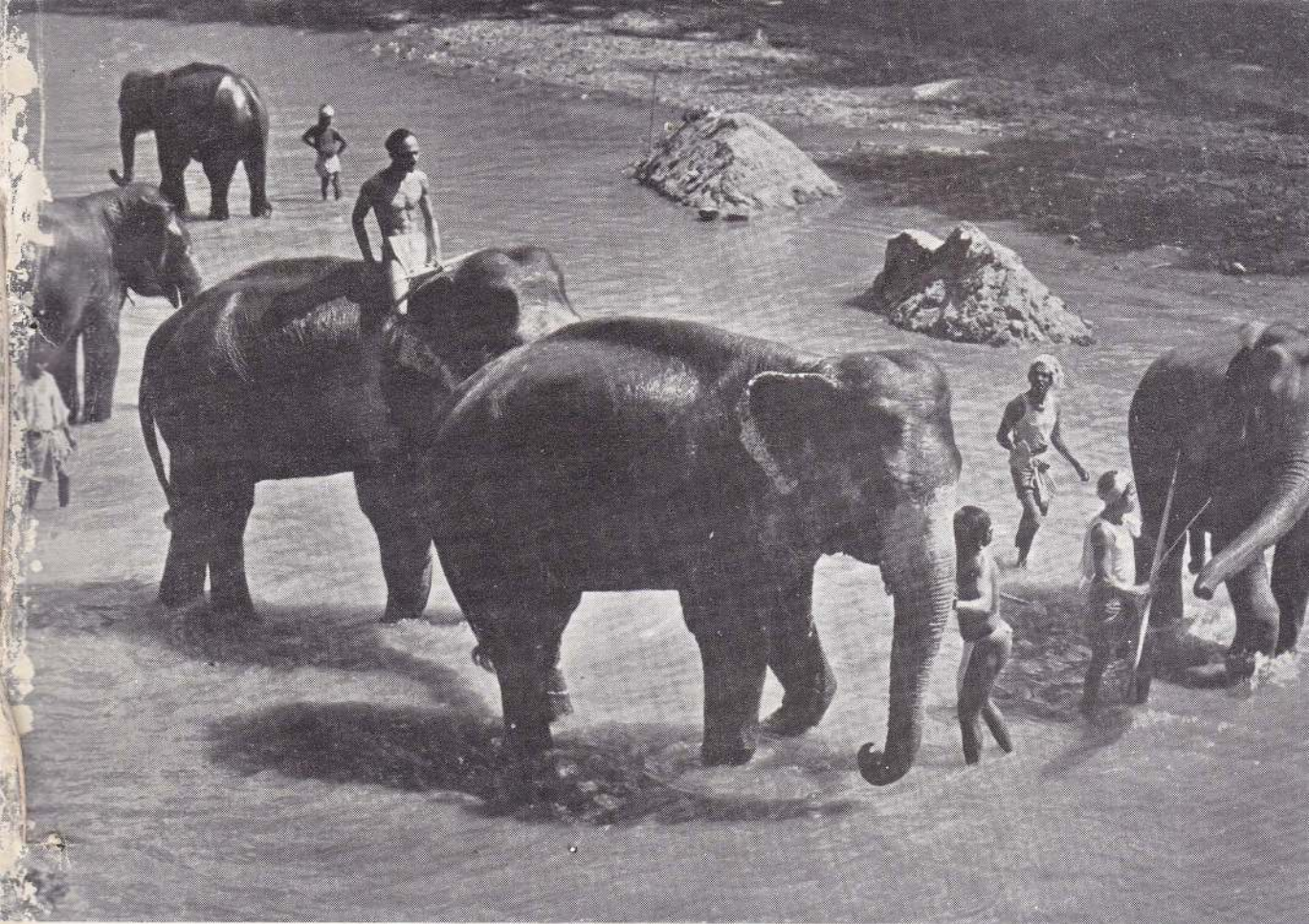
Brahmin priests officiating in front of the Deity. Lighted camphor forms part of the offering

A spectacle which attracts much attention in the procession. A danseuse performing the " horse-dance "





Kandyan Drummers



The Ceylon elephants bathing in the Mahaweli Ganga near Kandy

The Ceylon Elephant

THERE was a time when Ceylon carried on a stable export trade in elephants. Within approximately the last one hundred years, however, the wild elephant population of Ceylon has fallen from over 10,000 to under 1,000. The reliability of the figure of estimated population a century ago may be adjudged on the single fact that, over a period of only five years, rewards were paid for 5,500 elephants destroyed in the Northern and Southern Provinces alone.

Before the up-country forests were cleared for plantations, elephants abounded in the mountain

ranges: their well-beaten trails traversed mountains and valleys and ascended the highest peaks. But now, large herds of elephants are a rarity, though, in times of drought, small herds from some distance around collect near a large tank where there is food and water and give the appearance of being one large herd.

During 1953, the discovered casualties, by capture and killing, among the wild elephant population in this country amounted to 82 animals. The corresponding figure for 1952 was 74, and for 1951, 121. For the 10 years preceding 1951,

reliable figures are not available but the annual average is estimated at 150 to 170.

The casualties during 1953 represent 8 per cent. to 9 per cent. of the estimated total wild elephant population. This is higher than the normal nett rate of reproduction, which is 6 per cent. to 7 per cent. For the past 12 years, at least, the rate of depletion has exceeded the natural rate of increase. By far the greatest loss inflicted on the wild herds had been the killings of these animals in defence of crops: these amounted to 54 in 1951, 39 in 1952 and 56 in 1953, approximately one animal a week for the past 3 years. These figures take no account of wounded animals. The number wounded exceeds the number killed, and in some cases the health of the animals must be permanently impaired by their injuries.

It is clearly necessary, if the survival of the wild elephant of Ceylon is generally and earnestly desired, that the mortality by shooting should be reduced. To achieve this voluntarily, the watchers who watch the crops at night must be prepared to build stronger fences, to watch vigilantly and to undergo greater exertion. The elephant is a formidable animal and it is a persistent crop-raider. Shooting is the most convenient way of putting a stop to its marauding. The shooting accomplished, the watcher can go to sleep: but if he dispenses with the gun, he must keep awake all night. Here lies the difficulty.

Before guns began to be used, the protection of cultivation was achieved by organized watching, employing a combination of illumination and sound. In its primitive form this combination would have consisted of fires, drums, gongs, rattles and the human voice. Their modern counterparts are electric torches, crackers and "bombs" which go off with loud explosions, and rockets which could be accurately directed to burst in a shower of sparks without injuring the animal. The electric torch is very effective, but there is the occasional elephant which will come forward aggressively towards the light: this will happen so infrequently that shooting could be sanctioned, and would indeed

be justified, in such cases. Loud explosions at intervals will scare away animals approaching the fences: simple and inexpensive means of setting the crackers off mechanically, such as a smouldering rope, could be devised. There is no lack of free firewood in the jungle areas and fires could be kept burning on the perimeter and close to the watch-huts. Crackers and fireworks cost no more than cartridges. The electric torch is not an additional expense because every watcher now carries one and uses it to illuminate his target. It must not be supposed that a continuous din has to be kept up from sunset to sunrise. Fires which are not allowed to burn out, an occasional explosion, and prompt and direct action against the trespassing animal are all that is necessary. But to create a general willingness to give up the gun and try other methods will be no easy task.

The measures taken in Ceylon during the last few years with the object of giving special protection to the elephant have been as follows:—

- (a) licences to shoot elephants for sport are not issued;
- (b) the export of elephants by private parties is banned;
- (c) the number of licences issued to capture elephants was successively reduced from 60 in 1951, to 30 in 1952, and 15 in 1953;
- (d) elephants may be captured only in areas, (i) in which major development schemes are in progress and (ii) which have been declared to be areas in which damage to crops by elephants is apprehended;
- (e) before special licences are issued for the destruction of proclaimed elephants, efforts are made to get the animals captured.

Measures to reduce the mortality by shooting in defence of crops are now felt necessary.

The following is a translation of a narrative by Game Guard W. L. A. Andris of the Yala Range, describing the birth of an elephant.

As it is of unusual interest we are reproducing it in full.

"I have witnessed the birth of a wild elephant on four different occasions, the localities being the bed of the Menik Ganga, Talgasmankada Eliya, Katagamuwa tank and Kudasilawa, all in the Yala Reserves, and the times at which I began my observations were approximately 10 a.m., 4 p.m., 6 a.m., and 8 a.m., respectively. I had the clearest, the closest and the most complete view at Kudasilawa lagoon. I was there about 8 a.m. one morning when nine elephants came out of the jungle into the open space round the lagoon. I climbed one of the rocks there and waited. One of the elephants, the cow which afterwards gave birth, went down on its knees and gently lay down on its side with its legs outstretched, remaining in that position for several minutes. The other eight elephants stood around here, caressing her all over her body with their trunks. The cow then rose to her feet, walked away a few paces, and lay down again as before. The other elephants, save one, went into the surrounding jungle: this one remained standing by the cow. More minutes passed, and the cow then rose again, walked a few paces away and again lay down, and this time turned over to the opposite side, pivoting on her spine. It remained thus for about 10 minutes and then rose once again, went a few paces and again lay down. This time it got up almost immediately after it lay down. As it rose, I noticed a pale, pink coloured bag about two feet in diameter, protruding out of its genitals. With the protruding bag in this position, the cow paced to and fro, apparently quite normally, for about 10 minutes and then the bag burst open and a watery fluid poured forth from it. Just at this time, the other elephant, which had remained with the cow throughout, strolled away and joined the rest of the herd which was all the time in the jungle close by. Several minutes after the water-bag burst open the cow again lay down. It was now about 9 a.m. The cow lay still in her prone

position, only moving and tossing her trunk around, but uttering no sound, not even a groan, for about half an hour. Her abdomen was rising and falling at regular intervals and she appeared to be heaving. Two elephants from the herd in the jungle walked slowly up to the prostrate cow, felt her with their trunks in the region of the genitals, and then returned to the jungle.

"Shortly afterwards, the cow stretched out her hind legs wide apart and without any noticeable signs of strain, the head and forelegs of the calf appeared. Immediately after, the cow rose to its feet and then again, in a few seconds, went down on its knees and lay down. Almost at once the calf was dropped and the cow immediately rose up and walked away for about 10 paces. At this time the cow bled profusely from the genitals. Having gone this distance, the cow again lay down on its side and kept tossing and turning over from side to side. The calf lay on the ground where it was dropped and was wriggling about. It was covered all over with what appeared to be a slimy liquid. About 15 minutes later, one of the elephants from the herd came up to the calf, raised it with its trunk about four feet clear off the ground, and then gently placed it back on the ground. This elephant then made a loud, rumbling noise, and all the other elephants in the herd came out of the jungle, trumpeting and making various noises, and approached the new-born calf. Each one of them in turn moved the calf about with its trunk and feet and threw sand on the calf. This went on for about half an hour at the end of which the calf stood up quite dry and steady on all fours. The calf, after rising, tried to suck milk from the other elephants. Its mother, which continued to remain lying down and tossing about for several minutes longer, then dropped the after-birth while lying on the ground. She rose immediately afterwards, picked up the after-birth and ate a portion of it. She tore a part of it to pieces

(Continued on page 24)

Sport in August

THE hub round which the August festivities in Ceylon revolves is racing. The five-day Meeting brings out all the best horses in training to compete for valuable prizes including several coveted trophies.

The Governor-General's Cup is, of course, the greatest race of the year and the only weight-for-age event in the calendar, thus ensuring that the winner is the best horse in the field.

Memories of Cotton Hall are so green in the minds of racing men that thousands of them came to the Havelock Racecourse this year to see whether in truth the mantle of the old champion had fallen on worthy shoulders. Owen Grange had proved himself last year to be the lineal successor to Cotton Hall but it remained to be seen whether he would maintain this superiority this year as well.

After his failure in the Queen's Cup Owen Grange had rather fallen from grace but he rehabilitated himself in July by winning over 7 furlongs in record time. After that he had only to stand up to win the Governor-General's Cup. And this he did in a manner which left no doubt whatsoever that in a truly-run race there is no horse to match strides with him in the country. Cook waited on the early leaders and hit the front at the distance where Merlin made every effort to get on terms but the Owen Tudor gelding going well within himself, shook off the challenge even before it materialised.

Second only to the Governor-General's Cup in public appeal is the Roberts' Cup which is the Arab classic of the year. Unfortunately, this race was run in a thunderstorm and the best horse in the field, Sukab, was for the fourth year running deprived of this trophy. First he was badly away. Then, after catching the field in the straight and having only Mahfudh Amer to beat, Cook lost his whip in the last vital strides when Sukab with the steadier of 9·12 was moving like a winner.

There was some bumping in the last 10 yards and everybody hoped that the objection, which was lodged, would be upheld as Sukab is the gamest pony that ever carried silk but fate ruled otherwise. Mahfudh Amer was ridden by a Calcutta jockey named Lewis who had never ridden a winner in India before and he was trained by Marrs, who seems to have uncanny luck in big races with unfancied horses as witness his successes in the Centenary Cup with Nairn Street and the Queen's Cup with Cape Province.

Apart from the Roberts' Cup on the opening day there was the Channer Cup which was claimed by that smashing sprinter Pink Lightning who defied top-weight on heavy going to win from flag-fall.

The Lawyers' Cup provided a grand finish in which Devil's Dance just got the verdict from Cloyne who was finishing the fastest of the lot.

The fourth Cup on the opening day was the Merchants' Cup and this, too, was won by a top-weight in Sophocles who battled it out with Persian Shade and came out the better of the two.

The Stewards' Cup also provided a close finish with Apprentice Jockey A. P. Perera winning his first trophy even when piloting Par Lyon to a superb victory over the even more neglected Quarterdale on whom a rawer lad in Abeygunawardene went all to pieces when he had struck the front 100 yards from home.

The Morley Cup was the last trophy on the second day and Mr. Aries, which is the racing name of a very popular Steward, won it for the second year in succession. Last year, he had won it with Saif Shakir and this time Salmut Mahmud did duty for him and pulled out a near miraculous burst which took him from last to first in less than a furlong.

The third day of the Meeting also had three Cups on offer.



A picture taken at the August Meet at the Havelock Racecourse, Colombo Race meets are also held at the course near Galle and in Nuwara Eliya

With conditions underfoot at their best, Victor Ludorum turned tables on Pink Lightning to claim the W. B. Bartlett Cup in runaway fashion.

Mr. Vernon Rajapakse, whose colours were sported by Victor Ludorum, had the unique honour of winning the Madras Cup as well when Hopeful Pearl who had been all at sea in the mud on Roberts' Cup day revealed a wealth of stamina that enabled him to run Counter Attack out of the spoils in the last 50 yards. The favourite Ahdid al Qussif was never in with a chance, Raffael keeping him far too back in the early stages.

The R. W. I. T. C. Cup was regarded as a gift for Mr. C. Wijesinghe's Ramjet but the favourite was run out of the prize by Golden Rise who came with a devastating run to overhaul Ramjet on which Raffael, again, was seen in poor light.

The penultimate day of the Meeting was Cup-studded like the opening day. The O. E. Goonetilleke Cup, which carries a stake only less than that attaching to the Governor-General's Cup, was the feature of the programme and was won in hollow fashion by Mr. G. B. S. Gomes' Mahdi who with a comparative feather on his back took an early lead and stayed well in front to the end. Victor Ludorum ran a great race over a distance which is a trifle too long for him to take second place.

Jockey Harbutt, who was astride Mahdi, had a real field day for, in addition to the O. E. G. Cup, he rode two other Cup winners.

He did not have very much to do when taking the Galle Cup in his stride on Cloyne who thus stepped up on his Lawyers' Cup form. But he had to ride his hardest and his best to get Master Tilake out of the bunch to score a thrilling victory in the Laxapana Cup, which appeared to be at the mercy of Nereas and might have been claimed by him but for the fact that he was crowded in by Edouard Valmont in the last furlong.

The fourth Cup on the card was the Colombo Cup where in a nerve-racking finish Irish jockey

Duffy who was riding in Ceylon for the first time that day got Hilal Ahmed up to Ibn al Jazira in the last stride to give Sir Chittampalam Gardiner his first trophy for the Meeting.

Raffael had the mortification of being beaten in every finish he was involved in that day and the sequel to it was that Trainer A. Selvaratnam and he parted company on the following Sunday. Two other "partnerships" were dissolved after the fourth day of the August Meeting. Trainer Robert parted with Jockey Stead while Mr. Ernie Seneviratne took The Harvestman away from Trainer Dunstan de Alwis, who had won four races with him and transferred it to Trainer Samaraweera. Mr. Seneviratne also sold his Shaiq Se'ad to Mr. de Alwis.

The August Meeting ended in a blaze of glory to the Cup winner Owen Grange. Taking his chance in the A. E. de Silva Cup over $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles the Owen Tudor gelding defied a handicap of 10·7 to win in a pretty finish with Mahdi to whom he was conceding 32 lb. Owen Grange was ridden to perfection by Cook and returned a timing for the gruelling course which was only a fifth of a second off the record. Mahdi with a hood is a reformed horse and paid tribute to the skill of his new trainer, A. Selvaratnam.

This same trainer sent out the winner of the Bandaranaike Cup in Quaddah Leila who equalled the time record when easily beating the versatile Hopeful Pearl.

Trainer Raja Selvaratnam had a very profitable double with Pennington who won the Galle Cup at odds of nearly 20 to 1 and Verdict who claimed the Newmarket Bloodstock Agency Cup. Both had their races won from barrier rise, Pennington being so far ahead of his rivals that they could not have seen which way he went most of the time.

The biggest upset of the meeting was provided by The Trader who won for the first time in Ceylon at odds of over 37 to 1.



Rugby Football is a popular form of sport in Ceylon. The above picture was taken at one of the many matches that marked the "August Season".

Rugger

RUGGER Monday brought Colombo's Rugby Football Programme to its climatic close with the time-honoured August fixture between Up-country and Colombo played as usual on the Havelock Racecourse ground. A very large crowd turned up to witness this sport-cum-social event which in reality is part of the August week festivities. Colour and fashion were not lacking, therefore.

The game itself did not fall below expectations. It provided all the thrills that supporters of either side could wish for and the margin of victory—10 points to 9—in favour of Colombo, is a fair indication of the evenness of the contest. Colombo's

tally came from two goals. Up-country earned theirs by means of 2 tries and a penalty.

Up-country deservedly drew first blood when Ironside brilliantly intercepted a pass and raced away across a comparatively clear field with only the Full Back to beat. Ironside was closely backed up by his own team-mates and made the line without mishap. The convert failed but as if to make up for that loss they were awarded a penalty soon after which Ironside placed very neatly.

Up-country were now in full cry to the delight of the many fanatic devotees of the game who make up the planting fraternity of Ceylon.

But their joy was fated to be short-lived for Ironside's brilliant example was emulated by

Colombo skipper, Navaratnam, who collected a ball that was meant for the opposing fly half. There was no stopping him. He was over the line like a flash, and Dewing added the major points. Up-country was still in the lead but they had met their match, and the pace was beginning to tell.

Colombo had the second half practically to themselves but Up-country was so determined in defence that no score was effected. It took the genius of Paiva to over-come their stubbornness. By dint of some amazing side stepping he created the gap that led to victory. Numan backed up and sent Dewing over. Dewing himself took the kick, again very neatly.

Up-country now turned from defence into an all out offensive. Very commendable, and the correct thing to do in the circumstances. It also provided the spectacle that put the huge crowd in a happy frame of mind. They went about it with a will and succeeded, partly, for though they

scored they could not overtake Colombo's score. But they had served up a dish worthy of the occasion.

Barass, the long looked for fly half with a reputation for brilliancy, certainly showed something of his wares in the process. He did a spectacular run on his own from his own half, right into the vicinity of the Colombo line before he was brought down. So near striking distance, Up-country would not lightly yield. They swarmed in force and Simpson took the ball over.

When time was called soon after, Colombo retained their slender lead and proudly did they receive the Capper Cup from the hands of Ceylon's first Ceylonese Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke.

The time-honoured cricket and hockey fixtures, which used to add their quota of thrills to the August week festivities, have now fallen almost into desuetude. The substitutes make no appeal.

THE CEYLON ELEPHANT

(Continued from page 19)

and flung it away and also trod on portions of it. The after-birth appeared like a large sack in a portion of it, with elongations similar in appearance to the tentacles of an octopus. Some portions of the after-birth were fleshy, while others were like lumps of "nerves". The whole was coloured purple in some parts, in others pinkish or reddish. The baby elephant did not appear to have a naval cord. It was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high and its little trunk was about 12 inches long. About 15 minutes after the cow dropped the after-birth and did away with most of it, she walked up to the calf which was now in the midst of the herd. The cow on reaching her calf trumpeted, lifted the calf with her trunk and took it away from the other elephants. She then placed the calf on the ground. The calf was now trying to suck milk from its mother. The cow went

down on her knees and rested her head on the ground. The calf then reached for the breasts and sucked off both breasts for a considerable time. The cow then rose, picked up the calf in its trunk, poised it high up to her chin, and walked away in the centre of the accompanying herd into the jungle. I then came down from the top of the rock from which I had been watching. I found the ground where the cow was lying smeared with blood and slimy fluid. I cut a piece from what was left of the crushed after-birth. The portion I cut contained blood and appeared to consist of tubes, each about 2 inches in diameter and 2 feet long."

Adapted from the Administration Report for 1953 of the Warden, Department of Wild Life.



The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, at the inaugural dinner-dance held by the Alliance Francaise de Ceylan in Colombo recently. The Alliance has as its chief aim the promotion of friendship between France and Ceylon

Foreign Affairs

Colombo Plan Council Meeting

THE policy session of the Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia (Colombo Plan) was held in Colombo from July 22 to July 24, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. C. C. Desai, India's High Commissioner in Ceylon and President of the Council.

The session was attended by representatives of Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the

United Kingdom, the Federation of Malaya, Singapore and Viet-Nam. The Liaison Officer, United Nations Technical Assistance Board, and a representative each of Thailand and the United States Embassy in Ceylon were present as observers.

The Council adopted the draft report on technical assistance for 1953-54, which in the main reviews the contribution made towards the economic development of various countries under the Colombo Plan Technical Assistance



The Hon. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, Minister of Agriculture and Food, with Mr. and Mrs. C. Deshmukh

Scheme. It also supported a proposal by the United Kingdom to extend technical aid to the Maldive Islands which need the services of experts to advise the Government on the reform of the Island's currency to prevent serious inflation.

The Council also agreed that the Director of the Technical Co-operation Bureau, Dr. P. W. E. Curtin, should attend the meeting of the Consultative Committee in Ottawa in September on behalf of the Council. Mr. Desai was re-elected President until the next policy session in November. The Council adopted a proposal that in future the election of the Council President should be governed by the principles of alternation and that his term of office be about 12 months.

Deshmukhs Visit Ceylon

MR. CHINTAMAN DESHMUKH, India's Finance Minister, and Mrs. Deshmukh paid a visit to Ceylon from July 24 to July 28. During their stay here they were guests of His Excellency Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, the Governor-General.

On the eve of his departure from Ceylon, Mr. Deshmukh told pressmen that Indian nationals repatriated from Ceylon would not adversely affect India's economy. India had gained considerable experience in rehabilitating displaced persons from Pakistan since partition of the sub-continent.

Regarding the possibility of India aiding Ceylon to conclude a tri-partite agreement with Egypt on tea sales from Ceylon to Egypt, Mr. Deshmukh said that he had not investigated the problem. The Indian Finance Minister was of the opinion that closer trade ties between India and Ceylon would solve a number of Ceylon's economic problems.

On the question of American aid, Mr. Deshmukh said that America was giving India technical assistance and loans, but that no "strings" had been attached to these. India was trading with China but not in strategic war materials which were covered by the U. S. "Battle Act", which precluded American aid for countries which traded with Communist States in strategic war materials.

Mrs. Deshmukh said she had been greatly impressed by the scope of welfare work done by Ceylonese women specially in the rural areas.

Gift of Canadian Flour

THE Minister of Lands and Land Development, the Hon. Bulankulame Dissawa, accepted a shipment of flour donated by the Australian Government under the Colombo Plan of technical co-operation on behalf of the Government of Ceylon at a formal ceremony on August 2.

The counterpart funds from this flour will be utilized to finance the irrigation schemes of Padawiya, Pavatkulam and Vavunikulam. Total expenditure on these schemes will be about Rs. 22 million. Australian aid will be given half in equipment and half in flour.

The Padawiya scheme will irrigate 14,000 acres of land; the Pavatkulam 4,500 acres and Vavunikulam 6,000 acres. The Government has also

made provision for Rs. 26 million for these three schemes under Loan Fund Expenditure and of this sum Rs. 11 million will be spent on the headworks and the balance on irrigation works. Work has already begun on the Padawiya and Pavatkulam schemes while the surveying stage has been reached at Vavunikulam.

Praise for Tractor Maintenance

HIS Excellency Mr. A. R. Cutler, V.C., the Australian High Commissioner in Ceylon, visited the Kangaroo Tractor Station at Anuradhapura early in July. He expressed his satisfaction at the work being done by the tractors which were presented to Ceylon by Australia in 1953 under the Colombo Plan, and also for the manner in which they were being looked after and maintained in working order.

In spite of initial difficulties such as inexperienced staff and unfamiliarity with certain implements, 3,000 acres of paddy land were ploughed by these tractors during the last Maha season. During the current Yala season a fair amount of threshing had already been done and in the next Maha season it is hoped to plough about 10,000 acres with the tractors.

Goodwill Message to Canada

THE Ministry of Defence and External Affairs sent through the Canadian High Commissioner in Ceylon a message of felicitation from the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, to the Government and people of Canada on the occasion of the anniversary of Canada Day on July 1.

In his message, the Prime Minister said: "We who have had tangible proof of the friendship that exists between the two countries are happy to join Canadians all over the world in celebrating the memorable event of July 1, 1867, which led to the birth of a new nation that has since continued to play an important role in International and Commonwealth affairs".

Premier to Visit Washington

THE Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, has accepted an invitation from President Eisenhower to visit the United States early in December and expects to be in Washington from December 6 to December 8. During his official visit the Prime Minister will stay at Blair House. Sir John will also visit Japan, Italy, France and the Philippines.

Accompanied by Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, C.M.G., O.B.E., Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs, and Mr. P. Nadesan, O.B.E., Secretary to the Prime Minister, Sir John is scheduled to leave Ceylon on November 10. The party is expected back in the latter part of December.

International Alliance of Women

OVER 50 delegates representing Pakistan, Burma, Japan, Indonesia and other Asian countries attended the meeting of the South-East Asian Regional Group of the International Alliance of Women which opened in Colombo on July 23. They met for three days and discussed a number of matters including higher education for Eastern women, adult education, co-education, and

The Prime Minister with Mr. Dudley Senanayake, M. P., and Mr. C. Suntharalingam, M. P., at the dinner to Mr. and Mrs. C. Deshmukh





The International Bank Loan to Ceylon was signed on July 9, in Washington. The picture shows His Excellency Mr. R. S. S. Gunewardene, Ceylon's Ambassador in Washington, Mr. T. Yumoto, Alternate Director, World Bank, and Mr. W. A. B. Iliff of the World Bank

religious and social sanctions in so far as they affect the education of women and girls.

Lady Rama Rau of India, speaking at Kandy after the conference, said she had been greatly impressed by the improved educational system in Ceylon. The fact that every child in both urban and rural areas was school-minded, she added, was most striking.

* * *

A PARTY of Indian Parliamentarians paid a friendly visit to Ceylon from July 6 to July 9. The group

comprised Mrs. Devi Nigam and Messrs. M. S. Nihal Singh, Onkar Nath, Harish Chandra Mathur, R. Velaudhan, B. K. Mukerjee and Ganeshilal Chaudry. During their stay in the Island they were the guests of His Excellency Mr. C. C. Desai, India's High Commissioner in Ceylon.

The party visited the Ramakrishna Ashram, met Indian Mercantile Chamber and Ceylon Democratic Congress representatives, listened to the proceedings of Ceylon's Parliament and

was entertained to dinner by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, on the day of its arrival. The party also visited the ruined cities of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa and went on to Kandy from where visits were paid to the Temple of the Tooth, the Peradeniya Gardens and the University of Ceylon.

* * *

THE Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Sir John Kotelawala, welcomed the signing of the Indo-China Pact with messages of congratulation to Mr. Chou En-Lai, the Premier of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Mendes-France, Prime Minister of France, and Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary.

In his message to the Chinese Premier, Sir John who paid a tribute to Mr. Chou En-Lai's valuable contribution to a cease fire in Indo-China said: "It is specially satisfactory because it holds out the hope of a just and lasting settlement to be worked out by the people of Indo-China themselves, free from all external influences. We are certain that China would readily assist in guaranteeing to the people of Indo-China their right to determine their own future."

Sir John congratulated Mr. Mendes-France on his "personal efforts and desire to secure peace in Indo-China" and praised Mr. Anthony Eden's "magnificent contribution" towards the achievement of the cease fire. He added that the settlement arrived at was welcomed by the world at large and particularly by those in South-East Asia. Sir John felt that it was a tribute to Mr. Eden's personal efforts as well as to British diplomacy.

In a statement released in Colombo on July 21, the Premier echoed Ceylon's satisfaction at the agreement reached at Geneva. He added that there had not been general appreciation of the fact that the world had hovered on the brink of another war while the Geneva talks went on, and he hoped that "with the restoration of peace in Indo-China we hope that we are now on the high road to world peace".

Continuing, Sir John expressed the wish that Asia would no longer be the battleground for

two power blocs to test their strength. Ceylon was particularly happy at the settlement because the agreement followed generally the principles approved by the Prime Ministers of the five Colombo Conference countries early in June.

Sir John hoped that the people of Indo-China would be given full and free opportunities for choosing their own Government. In due course these new independent States should be included in the Asia's comity of nations.

Temporary Residence Permits

AT a meeting presided over by the Prime Minister and attended by high-ranking Ceylonese officials, the Indian High Commissioner in Ceylon, H. E. Mr. C. C. Desai and his aides, the question of the renewal of Temporary Residence Permits of Indian nationals and other matters relating to the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement were discussed.

Of approximately 70,000 Indian T. R. P. holders in Ceylon, about 25,000 have applied for renewals of their permits, and in order to enlarge opportunities for employment of Ceylonese it was considered that arrangements should be made for these persons to leave the Island. They will leave on a staggered basis, in batches of 5,000. A reasonable period not exceeding three months will be given for permit-holders refused an extension to wind up their businesses in Ceylon and arrange for their departure. The first batch of 5,000 should leave Ceylon by the end of September. It, as well as subsequent batches, will be selected on a basis to be with the other Ministries chiefly concerned with the question of trade and employment of Indians resident in Ceylon.

Constitution Amendments

PARLIAMENT passed the second and third readings of the Bill to amend the Ceylon (Constitution) Order-in-Council on July 5. Explaining the purposes of the Amendment, the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, said that a period of at least ten years was necessary to "Ceylonize" new citizens registered under the Indian and Pakistani Citizenship Act.

Citizens registered under this Act would have the opportunity of selecting their representatives in Parliament from among themselves in accordance with the provisions of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement under which it had been agreed to give such citizens special representation.

Speaking against the Bill, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, said that it struck at the very roots of the safeguard provided in the Constitution in favour of the minorities and also against the very principle of territorial representation. The Government, he added, was creating a dangerous precedent.

Also opposing the Bill, Mr. C. Suntharalingam, M.P. for Vavuniya, complained that the Indo-Ceylon Agreement was being worked "not on a basis of mutual concord but on mutual discord".

The member for First Colombo Central, Mr. P. G. B. Keuneman, suggested as an alternative the creation of multi-member constituencies which, he claimed, would prove more effective than the present proposal not only in guaranteeing territorial representation but even special safeguards, if necessary.

The Minister of Posts and Broadcasting, the Hon. Mr. S. Natesan, winding up the debate, declared that there was no intention of abrogating Article 29 of the Constitution.

In a roll call vote on the second reading, 71 voted for and 24 against the Bill.

Mr. C. Suntharalingam's motion that the third reading be postponed for six months was defeated by 71 votes to 17. The third reading was then taken up and passed 71 voting for and 17 against.

The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, at the opening of the Nurses' Training School, Welisara. The Training School is a gift to Ceylon under the Colombo Plan



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Fa-Hien

(Chinese Buddhist monk; Fifth Century Pilgrim traveller and writer; was a native of Wu-Yang in Ping-Yang. His surname was Wung. Author of one of the most valuable Chinese accounts of India. The accounts of his Wanderings in India and Ceylon attracted the admiration of European Scholars more than a century ago. His journey to India and Ceylon during (399-414 A.D.) was made in search of complete copies of Vinaya Pitaka. Fa-Hien started his travels from Changgan or Sigan-fu, then Capital of the Tsin Empire, and passing the Great Wall, he crossed the "River of Sand" or Gobi Desert. At Khotan, he witnessed a great Buddhist Festival. India was reached after a perilous descent of "ten thousand cubits" from the "wall-like hills" of the Hindu Kush into the Indus Valley (about A.D. 402).

From the Ganges delta Fa-Hien sailed in a merchant ship and in 14 days came to Ceylon. He stayed two years in the Island "copying out Sutras and drawing pictures of images". He also witnessed the Festival of the Exhibition of the Tooth Relic, and remarked about the trade of Arab merchants to the Island two centuries before Mohammed. He died in the Monastery of Sin at the age of 88. Fa-Hien was his clerical name.)

Translations of Fa-Hien's Travels, which contain 4 Chapters on Ceylon have been made by Remusat into French—but he did not live to see its publication. He had, in fact, only revised about one half, accompanied by valuable and exhaustive notes. This fell into the hands of Klaproth, who, with the assistance of Landresse, managed to fill up the blanks of the later portion (1836). This was subsequently translated into English by a Mr. Laidlay.

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Fellowes was born in Norfolk in 1770; Ordained Clergyman of the Church of England in 1795; passed his M.A. Degree in 1801. Between 1799 and 1807, he published several Theological Works, and also a book of Poems in 1806; edited the *London Critical Review* for many years. He took a prominent part in the establishment of the London University, where he founded two Annual Gold Medals—The "*Fellowes Medals*". He died in 1847.)

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