

# CEYLON *Today*

**M.s Goodwill Mission**

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**Australian Aid for Irrigation Schemes**  
S. ARUMUGAM

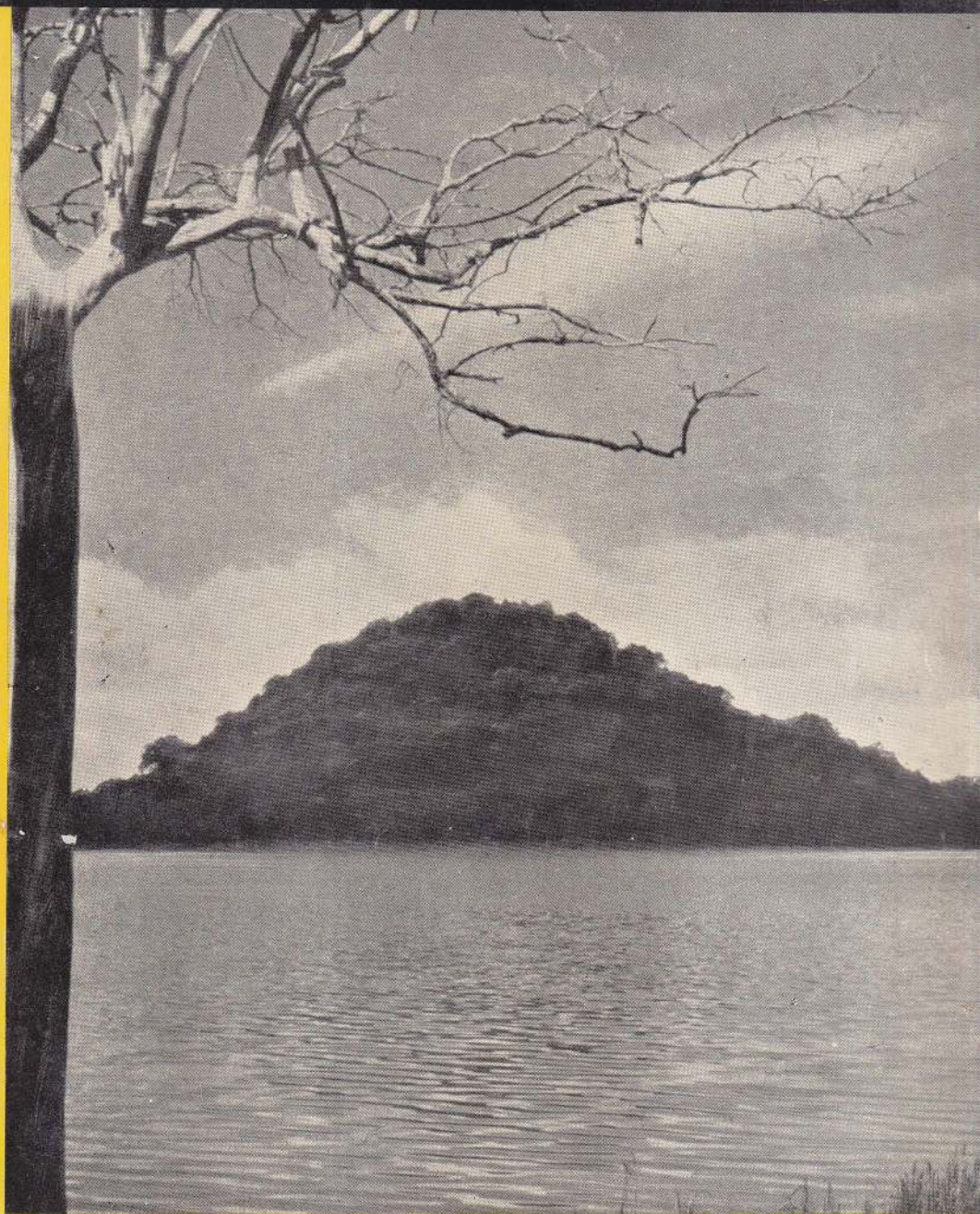
**Police Dogs**  
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**NOVEMBER, 1954**



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# CEYLON

# Today

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## P. M.s Goodwill Mission

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THE pomp and ceremony of a State function marked the departure, on November 10th, of the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, on the first lap of his 51-day tour of three Continents.

The Ratmalana airport was "dressed" for the occasion, and a crowd of several thousands, among whom were Cabinet Ministers, diplomats and Members of both Houses of Parliament, was present to see the Premier off. The Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, was also present to wish good-bye to the Prime Minister, who is accompanied on his tour by Mr. Gunasena de Soya, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs, and Mr. P. Nadesan, Secretary to the Prime Minister and Information Officer.

At the airport, Sir John took the salute from a specially-constructed dais at a march-past of the three Services, and listened to chanting of *pirith* by Buddhist monks.

Shortly before he emplaned, Sir John made the following statement :—

"The tour I am about to commence takes me on a goodwill visit to many parts of the world. In my statement to the House of Representatives

last week, I dwelt at length on the details and purpose of my journey. I therefore do not intend to cover the same ground again this afternoon.

### A Goodwill Mission

I would wish, however, to repeat a view I have expressed on many occasions in the past, that international goodwill and understanding are essential for peace and human progress. If the journey I am about to undertake will help in some way in strengthening the bonds of friendship we have with the countries that have invited me to be their guest, I think a useful purpose would be served. I am going abroad with an open mind. I do not intend to enter into secret discussions or parleys, no matter what my political enemies might have to say to the contrary. National prestige is far too important to be signed away in the way the people fancy it could be done."

Earlier in the week, in the House of Representatives, Sir John made the following statement :—

"Honourable Members would be aware that I have accepted an invitation from President Eisenhower to visit the United States as a guest of the Government in December this year. There has been so much speculation and so much





The Prime Minister was greeted on arrival at the Airport by the Minister of Transport and Works, the Hon. Mr. Montague Jayawickreme, and the Minister of Home Affairs, the Hon. Mr. A. Ratnayake



mischievous talk about the purpose of this visit that I had decided, even before the Honourable Member for Colombo Central requested me to do so, to make a formal statement in the House before I left.

I wish to inform this House that my visit to the United States is a goodwill visit to a country with which, despite any little differences we may have, our relations are most cordial and friendly. I am one of those people who are able to go to the United States with an open mind and a clear conscience. Ceylon is not a recipient of American aid and I do not therefore have to go to America either hat in hand or with accounts to square. I am also not one who is easily frightened by bogeys. I only know that America is a very great country and I am looking forward to meeting her leaders and her people. I have no agenda for my talks in America, but I expect to have informal discussions on a variety of subjects. There were suggestions in certain quarters some time ago that my projected visit to the United States had the sinister object of sabotaging the China pact. In view of subsequent events I trust the false prophets feel how false they have been.

### Other Invitations

I have also received invitations from the Governments of certain other friendly countries to spend a few days with them. I have accepted these invitations with the greatest of pleasure.

My first visit will be to Italy where I shall spend two days. As Honourable Members would be aware, relations between Ceylon and Italy have been established on a sound footing with the exchange of diplomatic missions between our two countries. Personal contacts with Italian leaders, which my visit will enable me to make, will help greatly in furthering these relations.

From Rome I go on to France and Germany. Honourable Members will appreciate the importance of our maintaining close relations

with these two great European countries, without the need for any comment from me. Both countries have established diplomatic Missions in Ceylon, but we have, unfortunately, not been able to reciprocate. This is one of the matters I propose to look into on my visit to France and Germany.

I shall then go to the United Kingdom, where I shall stay for a week. As Honourable Members know, our relations with our old friends in Britain are perhaps the closest we have, and I am sure I shall have a great deal to occupy myself with while I am there.

I shall then go on to the United States where I shall spend in all about ten days. My itinerary includes stops at the more important cities, like New York, Washington, Chicago and San Francisco, and I am also looking forward to a visit to Akron, the home of the American rubber industry.

### Visit to Canada

WHILE in the North American continent I am taking the opportunity of paying a five-day visit to Canada, a Commonwealth country with which we have specially close relations. Everyone is aware of the very generous technical and capital aid, so willingly given, that we have received from Canada under the Colombo Plan. We were also recently honoured with a visit by Canada's Prime Minister, Mr. Louis St. Laurent, and in returning his visit I know I shall be received by a sincere and understanding friend of Ceylon.

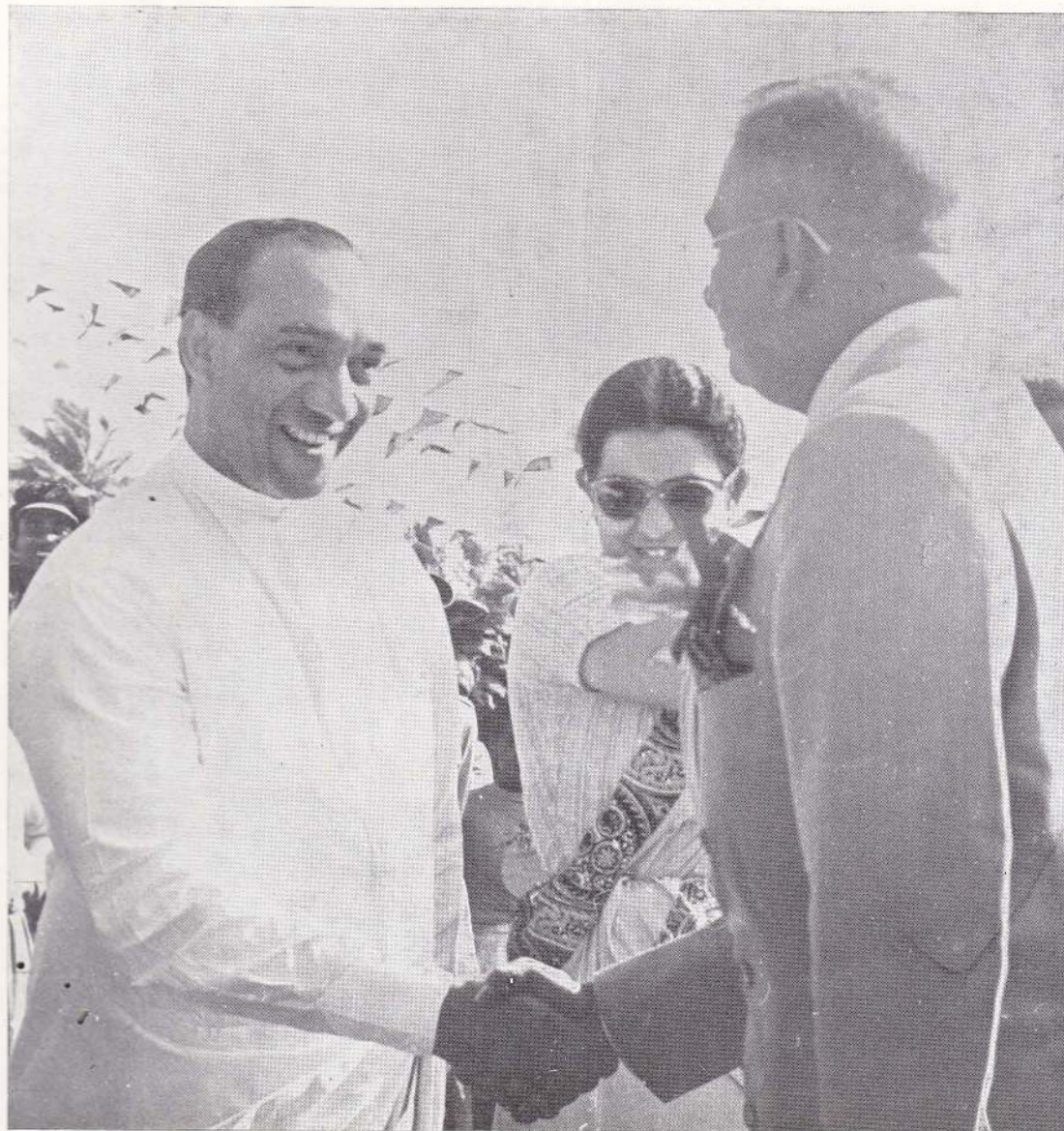
From the West coast of America, I shall go on to Japan and spend approximately a week there. With Japan, too, we have exchanged diplomatic missions, and I hope by my visit and personal contacts with Japanese leaders to further the very close relations that already exist between Ceylon and that country. Japan, as you know, has just been admitted to membership of the Colombo Plan organization, and I am sure that, with her admission, Ceylon and other under-developed





The priests pray for blessings on Sir John as he sets out on his tour





The Prime Minister with Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, Minister of Food and Agriculture

countries stand to benefit a great deal from the wide and varied experience which Japan can make available in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and light industry. Despite the great suffering and the many privations the people of Japan had to undergo during the war and the years of occupation that followed it, they

have by their industry been able to rehabilitate themselves remarkably quickly. Japan still has her own problems, mainly a legacy of the war, and we hope that these will soon be resolved in the interests of peace and of the welfare of the Asian region, to which she can make a very significant contribution.

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The Prime Minister with members of the Diplomatic Corps





Sir John at the saluting base before the playing of the National Anthem



### Philippines and Indonesia

I shall also visit the Philippines, Indonesia and Singapore. We have not yet had much intercourse with the Philippines, and I hope to break the ice, so to speak, by my visit. Honourable Members are aware of my desire for close relations with all Asian countries, and I am sure that my personal contacts with leaders in the Philippines will pave the way for future relations between Ceylon and the Philippines. Strategically the Philippines are also of great significance to the peace of South East Asia.

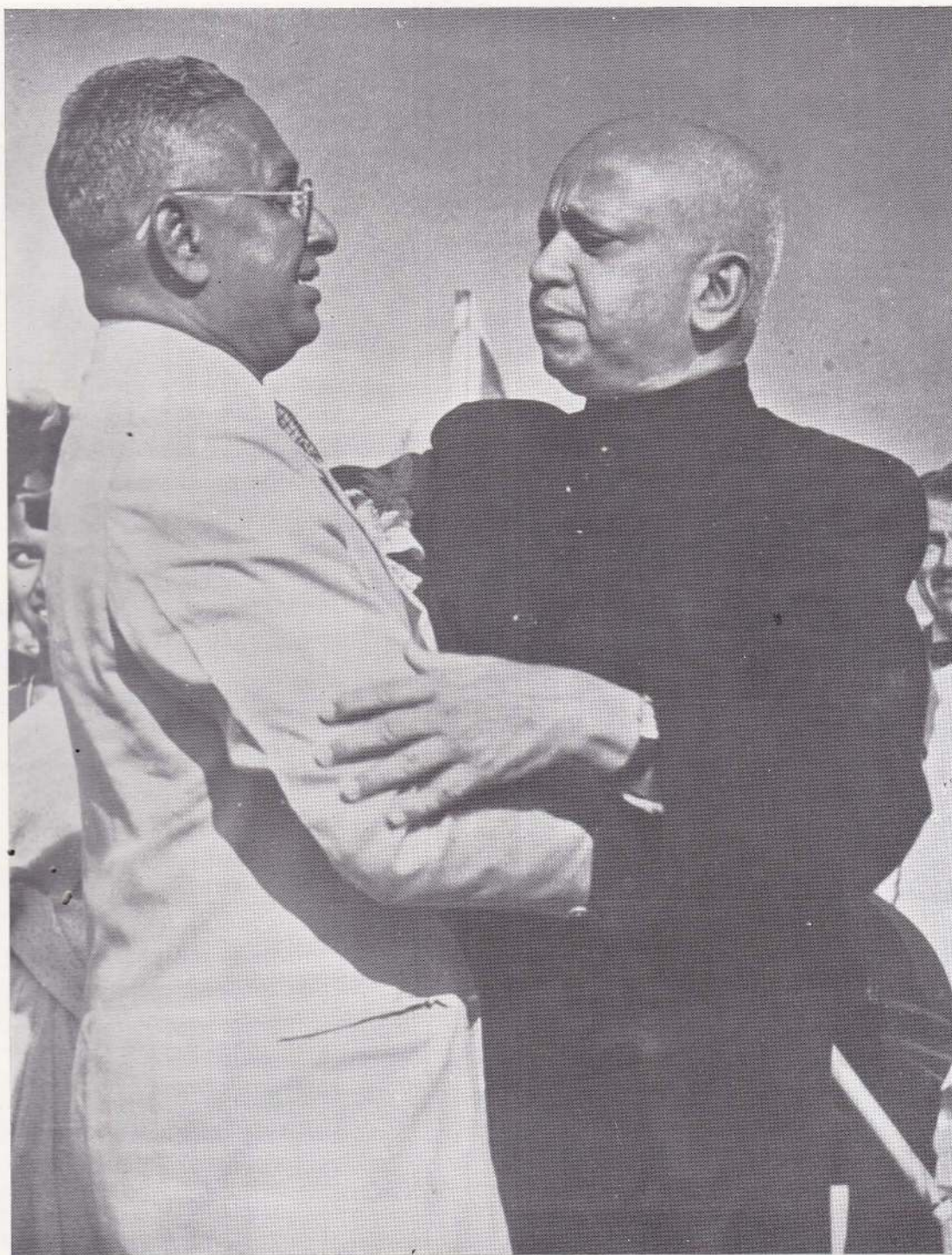
Indonesia and Ceylon are no strangers to each other. Indonesia is one of the group of countries now known as the Colombo Powers, and we have the most pleasant recollections of her participation in the Conference of South East Asian Prime Ministers, held in Colombo last May. Like us, she is a country that has recently emerged from age-old Colonialism, and her contribution to the resurgent spirit of Asia is truly great. I look forward to making my closer acquaintance with her people and to renewing my associations with her Prime Minister."

SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA, Prime Minister of Ceylon, is especially welcome here at this time because of the debate in the Administration over the best plan for economic aid to Asia. Ceylon's capital was the scene of the signing of the Colombo Plan for South and South East Asia. Now that Japan and Thailand have been admitted to the association, 16 nations are members of the Colombo undertaking to improve the economies of the non-Communist Lands of Asia. Sir John Kotelawala's intimate experience with this undertaking, his career in agriculture and his years as Minister of Agriculture and Lands and then as Minister of Transport and Works, make him a trustworthy and valuable adviser on Asian economic problems. His visit should be the occasion for the frankest inter-change of views with his American hosts. Sir John arrives here this morning

just 14 months after succeeding to the Prime Ministership. He has distinguished himself by the independent stand he has taken in his relations with the Big Powers and with other Asian countries. He has refused to recognize any Communist nation because Soviet Russia has blocked Ceylon's entry into the United Nations. At the same time, he has declined to be the pawn or satellite of any other country. Both India and the United States know that Ceylon is an independent country which makes its own foreign policy and that it has earned its right to control its own affairs. Sir John Kotelawala comes here as the enlightened representative of one of the small but important new states of Asia.

*The "Washington Post" of Monday, December 6, 1954*





Sir John says good-bye to Sir Oliver Goonetilleke





The Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala being greeted by the Indian Premier, Shri Nehru, soon after his arrival at the Airport

## The Delhi Talks

WE reprint below the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House of Representatives on the Joint Statement, dated October 10th, 1954, issued in Delhi by the Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Ceylon.

“Honourable Members would be aware that I recently paid a visit, with several others, to Delhi for the purpose of settling certain difficulties that had arisen in the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement that was entered into in January. The talks between the Prime Minister of India and myself took place at Delhi on

October 9th and 10th, 1954, and on the conclusion of the talks a joint statement was signed by the Prime Minister of India and myself. The other members of my delegation to these talks were : The Honourable Mr. M. D. Banda, M.P., Minister of Education ; the Honourable Senator E. B. Wikramanayake, Minister of Justice ; Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, M.P., Leader of the Opposition ; Mr. Dudley Senanayake, M.P. ; Mr. V. Nalliah, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Defence and External Affairs ; and Mr. Bernard Aluwihare, M.P.



### The Joint Statement

THE following is the text of the joint statement signed by the Prime Minister of India and myself :—

1. A Conference was held on October 9th and 10th, 1954, in New Delhi, to consider certain problems relating to persons of Indian origin resident in Ceylon. The Conference was attended by a delegation from Ceylon led by the Prime Minister of Ceylon and a delegation led by the Prime Minister of India. The Conference discussed these problems fully and frankly and in a spirit of friendly and co-operative endeavour to overcome the difficulties that had arisen.

2. There was a basic difference of opinion between the two delegations in regard to the

status of people of Indian origin in Ceylon. The Ceylon Delegation stated that it has always been the position of Ceylon, as it still is, that such persons continue to be citizens or nationals of India unless and until they are accepted as Ceylon citizens. The Ceylon Delegation could not therefore accept the position that any of these persons are stateless. The Indian Delegation stated that only those persons of Indian origin who are already in possession of Indian passports and passes or who have been registered at the Indian High Commission under Article 8 of the Constitution of India are Indian citizens. Other persons of Indian origin who are not either Ceylon citizens or Indian citizens are therefore at present stateless. It was further stated that there could be no automatic conferment of Indian nationality on persons belonging to this category.

The Prime Minister with Shri Nehru and Mr. Dudley Senanayake, M.P., the former Prime Minister





3. The Conference also considered the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of January 18, 1954, and the misunderstandings that had arisen in regard to its implementation. In that Agreement it was provided that the registration of citizens under the Indian and Pakistani (Citizenship) Act would be expedited and every endeavour would be made to complete the disposal of pending applications within two years. It was further stated that in regard to persons not so registered it would be open to them to register themselves as Indian citizens, if they so chose, at the Office of the Indian High Commissioner in Ceylon in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of the Constitution of India. It was further provided that the Government of India would offer administrative and similar facilities to all persons of Indian origin to register themselves as Indian citizens under the

Constitution of India, if they so chose, and would also give publicity to the availability of such facilities.

4. While these two processes of registration have continued, the pace of such registration has been slow and certain difficulties have arisen. Complaints have been made by both sides about certain procedures which came in the way of full implementation of the Agreement and have created misunderstandings.

#### **Difference in Approach**

5. As there appeared to be a basic difference in the approach of the two countries to the problem of the status of persons of Indian origin resident in Ceylon, it was decided that the practical course was to recognize this difference

Sir John being introduced to members of the Diplomatic Corps at New Delhi







The Indo-Ceylon talks in progress at New Delhi. The Prime Minister and Shri Nehru are seen opposite each other

and to proceed as rapidly as possible with the two processes of registration as Ceylon citizens or as Indian citizens and thus to reduce the number of those persons who at present were not accepted either as Ceylon citizens or as Indian citizens. In this way the number of such persons would be progressively reduced and would be more amenable to further consideration at a later stage. It was recognized by both Governments that it was undesirable to have a large group of persons who could not be accepted as citizens of either country. It was agreed, therefore, that these processes of registration should be expedited.

6. It was agreed that in regard to those persons who are not registered as Ceylon citizens, it would be open to them to register themselves as Indian

citizens if they so chose. The Indian High Commissioner will entertain all applications made to him for registration as Indian citizens under Article 8 of the Constitution of India and will grant every facility for this purpose, subject to satisfying himself that the applicants have the prescribed qualifications under the Indian law. Applications will not be refused on the ground that an applicant had earlier applied to the authorities in Ceylon for registration as a citizen under the law of Ceylon.

7. The procedure for registration as citizens of Ceylon will be simplified, as far as is possible, within the terms of the law, so as to complete, as far as may be practicable, the disposal of applications within the time mentioned in the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1954. The Ceylon



Government will examine, with a view to their withdrawal, any executive instructions of a restrictive nature, issued by the Ceylon authorities, which result in the rejection of such applications on purely technical grounds.

8. The Ceylon Government will resume the practice of issuing Identity Certificates for travel abroad to all persons of Indian origin resident in Ceylon whose applications for Ceylon citizenship are pending. The issue of such certificates will be governed by the rules and conditions which apply to Ceylon citizens. Exchange facilities for remittances of money out of Ceylon by such persons will be the same as those available to Ceylon citizens.

The Indian High Commissioner will issue Identity Certificates for purposes of travel to

persons of Indian origin whose applications for registration as Indian citizens are pending before him.

The Indian authorities will provide travel facilities to Indian citizens and the Ceylon Government will give such persons remittance facilities, as before.

#### **Position to be reviewed**

9. THE Governments of the two countries earnestly hope that the steps mentioned above will in the time contemplated, i.e., 2 years, resolve to a substantial degree the problem of persons of Indian origin resident in Ceylon by their registration either as Ceylon citizens or as Indian citizens. At the end of this period and when the

The Prime Minister has tea with the Indian President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad





registrations under the Indian and Pakistani (Citizenship) Act are completed, the position will be reviewed with a view to deciding what further steps may be needed to deal with the problem of the residue that may be left. The Ceylon Government for its part states that it will in addition have to consider what steps may be necessary at that stage to safeguard the interests of its own citizens in regard to such matters as employment. It was stated on behalf of the Government of India that while every effort should be made to promote employment, as stated by the Ceylon Government, this should not involve, in their opinion, any coercion or victimization of those persons of Indian origin who may still remain unregistered either as Ceylon citizens or Indian citizens. The measure of success attained in dealing with this problem will depend largely on a friendly and co-operative approach of all parties and every effort should be made to encourage this friendly approach.

10. It was stated on behalf of the Ceylon Government that it intends in the meanwhile to introduce a scheme enabling persons of Indian origin now in employment in Ceylon who may hereafter acquire Indian citizenship to continue in such employment till the age of 55 years when they may be required to leave the country and that it has under consideration a scheme for the payment under such conditions as may be prescribed of gratuities to such persons when they leave the country. Such persons will also be given social and medical benefits no less favourable than those which may be provided for workers of the same category who are Ceylon citizens.

11. The two Governments will exchange information regarding lists of registration, etc., from time to time to ensure effective co-operation in carrying out these arrangements.

### Discussions at Delhi

IN the discussions at Delhi the two sides got down to the basic position once again so that the ground could be cleared for future action. Ceylon

reiterated her position that she regards every Indian in Ceylon who is not accepted as a Ceylon citizen to be an Indian national or citizen. India stated her position that she can regard as Indian citizens only persons who hold Indian passports or have been registered with the Indian High Commissioner under Article 8 of the Constitution of India as Indian citizens.

It was necessary for Ceylon to get clear upon this question as to who, among persons of Indian origin, are Indian citizens because, obviously, a third category would ultimately emerge, that is, those who are neither the one nor the other, who would some day raise a problem for Ceylon. They would cause no concern to India, but they would to us because they would be physically present with us. In respect of this category India and we have agreed that we would together review the position at the time—which we expect to be about two years from now—when it becomes possible to assess the numbers of the category.

Ceylon has, however, at the same time given notice in advance to India that she may also at that stage have to consider what steps she must take to safeguard the interests of her own citizens in regard to such matters as employment. This, of course, is a right of Ceylon's which cannot be gainsaid. India appreciates the objects of the action we might take, but has expressed her opinion that any action taken should not involve coercion or victimization of persons of Indian origin who may still remain unregistered either as Ceylon or Indian citizens. It is good to have arrived at understanding in respect of this matter. Action we would take for the safeguarding of the interests of our people would be directed with that sole object and not against a particular class or classes.

At the time the Indo-Ceylon agreement of last January was made, Ceylon was going on with the registration of persons of Indian origin as Ceylon citizens under the Indian and Pakistani Citizenship Act. Nothing was, however, being done at that





The Prime Minister soon after his arrival in Ceylon after the talks. With him is Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, the Leader of the Opposition



time by India to sort out her own citizens. This state of affairs was corrected by the agreement, which stated that persons of Indian origin could have themselves registered as Indian citizens with their High Commissioner under Article 8 of the Constitution of India.

### No Headway

AFTER some time, however, it was discovered that not much headway was being made in the registration of Indian residents as Indian citizens, so that it appeared as if the class that would be left with us as non-nationals of Ceylon would be unduly large. We have now had the situation corrected. There had been complaints against us by India regarding the tardy registration of Indian residents as Ceylon citizens under our Act, and these were brought to a head at our discussions. It has now been agreed that there should be no adventitious barriers to the registration of Indian residents as Indian citizens, and the Indian Government has agreed that all facilities should be given to persons who wish to register themselves as Indian citizens with the Indian High Commissioner.

The road is now clear, and there is every prospect that many persons will register themselves as Indian citizens. The more registrations there are of this class the easier will be our problem. Persons who are registered as Indian citizens are liable to go back to India. In order to encourage them to go back to India we have agreed to allow persons who are registered as Indian citizens to continue to remain in employment in Ceylon until the age of 55, without being subjected to the disabilities that non-nationals might have to suffer. At the age of 55 they would have to leave Ceylon, and, in order to expedite their departure a scheme will be worked out for them which will enable them to take some gratuity with them when they leave the country.

It will thus be seen that Indian residents will on the one hand be registered as Ceylon citizens

under our law and on the other as Indian citizens under the Indian law ; and, considering the inducements that are being offered, there would be little incentive for an Indian who does not get accepted as a Ceylon citizen to wish to remain an unregistered non-national. We therefore expect that the so-called "Stateless" class that may constitute a problem for the future will be small. We hope that the work of registration under our Act will be completed in two years time. Within this time we expect that registration by the Indian High Commission will also be fully speeded up. This is the reason why we have agreed to review the position, so far as citizenship is concerned, at the end of two years.

### The "Stateless"

I might point out that there would now be no need for any Indian to become "stateless" in Ceylon. If he became so it would entirely be a self-inflicted condition. The advantages of registering himself as an Indian citizen are obvious. His employment in Ceylon is assured him until the age of 55 ; he can travel freely up and down between India and Ceylon and he can send money home. If he became a Ceylonese he would have to undergo the consequences of being a non-Indian, and if he chose to remain "stateless" he would have only himself to blame.

At the discussions between the Prime Minister of India and myself we were able to clarify several matters which were in doubt, so that the picture is now made clear. We were also able to remove a certain amount of tension that had latterly begun to arise between both sides, so that work on both sides now becomes freer and more unhampered. I feel confident that these talks between the two Prime Ministers have effectively solved our more serious problems and have paved the way to a smoother disposal of the Indo-Ceylon question."





Padawiya Area, all jungle now, will soon be smiling paddy fields

## **Development of Irrigation Projects in Ceylon with Aid from the Australian Government under the Colombo Plan**

S. ARUMUGAM

EARLY in 1954, it became known that the Government of Australia was willing to extend aid, under the Colombo Plan, for the construction of Padawiya, Pavatkulam and Vavunikulam—three Irrigation Reservoir Projects in Ceylon.

The Government of Australia subscribes to the aid by the shipment, to Ceylon, of flour and constructional mechanical equipment. The

proceeds of the local sale of flour will aid, through a counterpart fund, the financing of the projects. The mechanical equipment received will facilitate the execution of construction of the Reservoir Schemes.

For the year 1954–55, the Australian Government's aid amounts to £ A 500,000 as a first year's contribution.



## Irrigation Development Projects aided by the Australian Government

### 1. Padawiya Reservoir Project.

Approx. cost of Scheme Rs. 14,800,000.

Extent of land to be opened up for development with cultivation of Rice Crop under the Scheme—14,000 acres.

### 2. Pavatkulam Reservoir Project.

Approx. cost of Scheme Rs. 7,350,000.

Extent of land to be opened up for development with cultivation of Rice Crop under the Scheme—4,500 acres.

### 3. Vavunikulam Reservoir Project.

Approx. cost of Scheme Rs. 5,000,000.

Extent of land to be opened up for development with cultivation of Rice Crop under the Scheme—5,000 acres.

## I—Padawiya Reservoir Scheme

PADAWIYA Reservoir, an ancient irrigation work, now breached and abandoned, was formed by impounding the run-off from 208 sq. miles of watershed of the Ma Oya ('Oya' means a river). It is situated in the north-east parts of Ceylon, the nearest village being Kebittigollewa, which is 16 miles from Vavuniya, a town about 158 miles from Colombo.

The *Mahavamsa*, the Great Chronicle of Ceylon, attributes the construction of this ancient reservoir to King Mahasena who reigned over the Island of Lanka (as Ceylon was known then) during the years 325-352 A.D. This work is referred to under the name of Rattamala Kanduka and included amongst the 16 reservoir schemes constructed by Mahasena. It is presumed to have flourished till the 11th century, when it breached and remained unused for about 150 years.

An inscription on a rock pillar which stands on the reservoir embankment bears evidence

to the restoration work done during the reign (1154-1185 A.D.) of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

The inscription reads :—

"By Sri Parakrama Bahu, the Sovereign Lord of Lanka, who is concerned with doing good to the whole world, has this been constructed".

The system of irrigation adopted would presumably appear to have been storage of water in the reservoir from where it was released to the river during the dry weather to be picked up and distributed by a series of dams across the parent river. Some of these dams are seen in ruins across Ma Oya, several miles below the reservoir embankment.

The work appears to have continued to function till the 13th century, when it breached again, through which the Ma Oya now flows.

With the breaching of the reservoir the whole of the water would have passed out and the township, built nearby, abandoned shortly afterwards.

A flourishing town, now known as "Moragoda Ruins", is supposed to have existed when the Scheme flourished. There are several ruins to support the existence of a large settlement depending on this reservoir scheme. Ruins of Buddhist *Vihares* and Hindu Temples (places of religious worship) are seen now in the vicinity.

Since that catastrophe in the 13th century, the town, the rice fields, the bed of the reservoir and the district below it, once most flourishing, have all overgrown with forest.

## PROJECTED SCHEME OF DEVELOPMENT

THE object in restoring this ancient reservoir now is primarily to open up for development an extent of about 14,000 acres of land for rice cultivation, together with the development of necessary garden land for the settlement and rehabilitation of landless peasants.



The reservoir when constructed would have a full supply capacity of 67,500 acre-feet, with a water-spread area of 5,500 acres at a full supply level of 173.0 R.L. The supply will be drawn off to feed the parent river from a sluice with spill level 147.0 R.L.

The Padawiya Scheme, a veritable agricultural resource of the country, is thus being restored as a large-scale irrigation project for the production of food for the people. The construction work, just begun, will be executed with the aid and mechanical equipment from the Government of Australia under the Colombo Plan.

## II—Pavatkulam Reservoir Scheme

PAVATKULAM Reservoir is formed by impounding the run-off of Kal Aru ('Aru' means a river, 'Kal' refers to rock, stones, etc.) and is situated about 9 miles to the south-west of Vavuniya. The town of Vavuniya is about 158 miles from Colombo.

Unlike other ancient reservoirs of this magnitude, the history of Pavatkulam is obscure and nothing very much has come to light of its ancient story. However, comparing the existing structures and stone ruins about the locality, one would presume it to have been one of the 1st or 2nd century B.C. works.

The cobra stone found on the embankment is indicative of the constructional era.

Cobra stones are usually found near sluice structures at ancient reservoirs, and may be of religious significance.

The ruins of a Spillway-Regulator or Kalin-gula is found at the extreme left bank end of the embankment, where it terminates.

The Kalingula had apparently also been provided with vertical stone pillars which, when planked, will hold extra storage in the reservoir, by raising the spillway level of the flood escape.

Kal Aru, the parent river, now flows through the major breach on the embankment.

## PROJECTED SCHEME OF DEVELOPMENT

THE object in restoring this ancient reservoir is primarily the opening up for development an extent of about 4,500 acres of land for rice cultivation, together with the development of about 2,200 acres with garden cultivation and rehabilitation of landless peasants.

The reservoir when restored will have a full supply capacity of 25,000 acre-feet, with a water-spread area of 2,800 acres, at a full supply level of 232.5 R.L. The supply to the left bank and right bank channel systems will be through two separate sluices with approximate spill levels 215.0 R.L.

Construction work at site has been recently commenced and necessary preliminary works are in hand.

## III—Vavunikulam Reservoir Scheme

VAVUNIKULAM Reservoir is formed by damming the waters of the Pali Aru ('Aru' means a river, 'Pali' may have been derived from the ancient name of this reservoir, namely, Pali Wapi or Peli Wapi). It is situated about 8 miles west of south-west of Mankulam, a town about 200 miles to the north of Colombo. The area is largely overgrown with forest with scattered settlements here and there.

Accepted as the first large reservoir built in Ceylon for irrigation storage, Peli Wapigama or Peli Wapi (as the reservoir was known in the ancient days) may have been constructed by the prehistoric dwellers of the northern parts of Ceylon. Reference to the *Mahavamsa*, the Great Chronicle of Ceylon, indicates that the reservoir was already reported to be in a breached condition far back about the year 161 B.C., the era of King Dutugemunu. Closely connected with the history of this ancient reservoir is the story of the





Transplanting Paddy







ancient city of Pali Nagara, known to history in the first century A.D. A rock inscription at Perumiyamkulam, Anuradhapura, bears evidence of King Vasaba's (66-110 A.D.) transaction :—

“Hail the great King Vasaba granted the revenue from the water of Pali Nagara in the locality of Tiragama unto the Thera Majibuka”.

Today, stone ruins of structures, temples, statue of Buddha, cut in stone, Sivalingam, revered by Hindus, now all bear evidence of the glory that was.

Work has been commenced now, with the aid provided by the Australian Government under the Colombo Plan, to restore the reservoir and reclaim the fertile lands, now all overgrown

with forest, and revive the achievement of 23 centuries back.

#### PROJECTED SCHEME OF DEVELOPMENT

THE run-off from the watershed of 88 sq. miles of catchment area is to be stored by repairing the breaches and improving the existing earthen embankment of the ancient reservoir. The embankment is over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length and will join to high ground at either flank.

A storage of 30,000 acre-feet of water will be detained in the reservoir. This storage will irrigate an approximate extent of 6,000 acres for rice crop. The service would also aid the opening up of about 4,000 acres of high land for garden cultivation.

The Kal Aru, flowing through the breach at Pavatkulam, to be harnessed





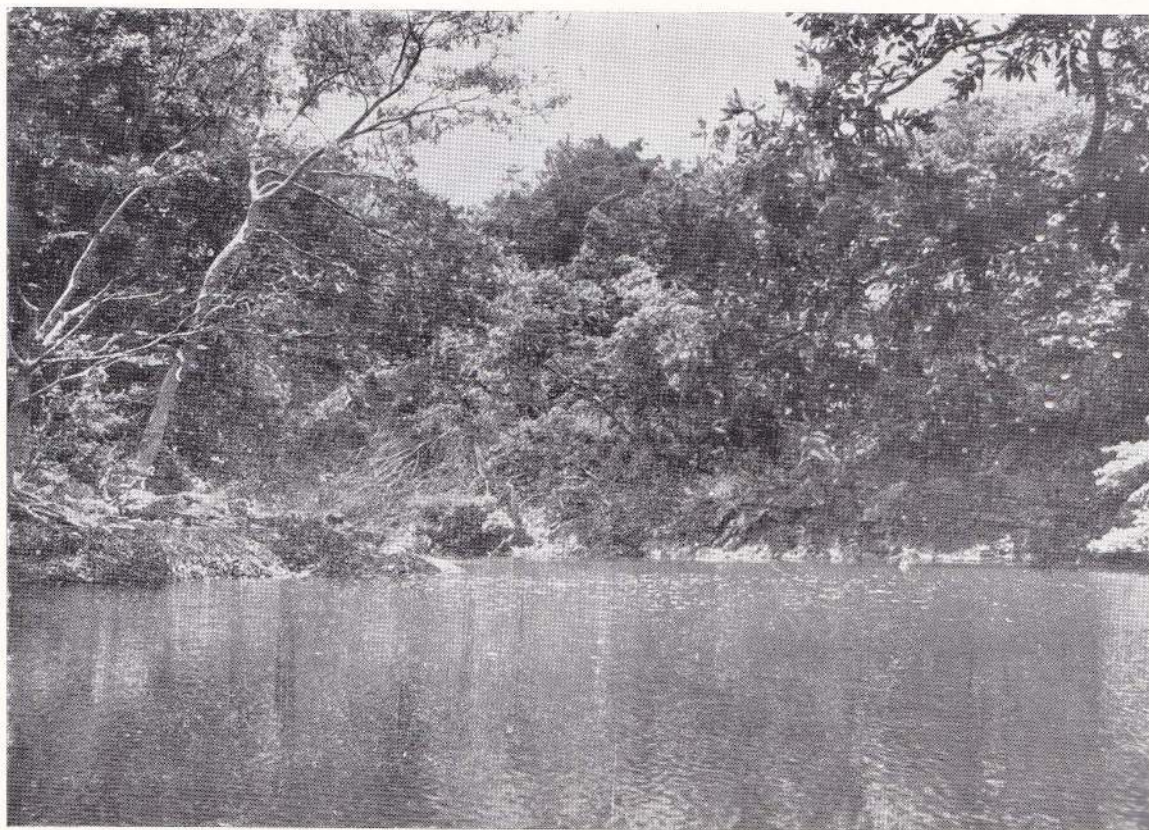
In all an extent of 10,000 acres now covered with forest will be opened up for development.

The Irrigation Development Projects, Padawiya, Pavatkulam and Vavunikulam, have been commenced in 1954. The construction program envisaged a period of four to five years for completion of development.

They would enable the development of about 24,500 acres with rice crop and open up large extents for the settlement of landless peasants.

The glory of the past will be revived, and areas lying dormant—covered with forest for centuries, veritable agricultural resources—will now be harnessed for economic development, for the production of rice, the essential food of the people of Ceylon.

Ma Oya, which feeds Padawiya Reservoir







An escapee brought to book by "Flash"

## Police Dogs

CYRIL S. CHINNIAH

ALL the world over, from time immemorial, the dog has been man's devoted friend and faithful ally—guarding his hearth and home, field and farmstead, helping the shepherd to police his flocks or the hunter to track his game. It is, however, only in comparatively recent times that its unerring instinct of smell began to be scientifically exploited in the sphere of crime prevention and detection. It was soon realized that dogs of selected breeds suitably trained could be invaluable aids to Police efficiency.

Police dogs are now used in many countries to capture or track offenders, trace lost or stolen

property, and on other duties of a police nature. It was Germany that pioneered the employment of dogs in police work. During the war, dogs were used to assist in the protection of airfields and as messengers, their low stature and great agility often getting them through dangerous and difficult country without being detected by the enemy. During the post-war years, dogs have been successfully used in the West to aid the regular Police to bring offenders to justice. They have been used extensively by the R. A. F. for watch and ward services in their establishments in various parts of the world.





Canine teeth in action—"Flash" untying the Gordian knot

In 1947 the Inspector-General of Police, Sir Richard Aluvihare, impressed by the splendid contribution made by trained dogs to police work in the progressive countries of the West, decided to introduce them to this country. The happy idea reached fruition towards the end of 1948, when arrangements were made with the R. A. F. to train Alsatian dogs for police work. Thanks to the invaluable assistance rendered by the R. A. F. authorities in Ceylon in undertaking the training of the dogs and the handlers, Police dogs quickly became an effective and notable unit in the Police set-up of Sri Lanka. In the initial stages the dogs were kept at Katunayake in charge of Police handlers. In June 1949 the dogs were moved to the present headquarters in Kandy in view of the suitability of the climate and the availability of quick medical attention at the Veterinary hospital at the hill capital. The dogs are housed in spacious kennels and kept in strict seclusion.

### Early Difficulties

NO pioneering effort of any kind can escape setbacks and difficulties, and the Police dog establishment had to suffer many casualties since its inception—among them 'Tarzan' and 'Sheba', who had proved themselves to be first-class detectives. But valuable experience has been gained and the general health of the dogs is now being maintained at a high standard under the expert care of Professor C. A. McGaughey of the University of Ceylon, whose professional services the establishment is extremely fortunate to secure. The Sub-Inspector-in-charge of the Police Kennels is presently undergoing training in England in the handling and training of Police dogs.

The dog establishment now comprises 12 dogs and 12 handlers, and six of the dogs are fully trained. Two of them are now stationed at the Training School at Katukurunda. Some of the



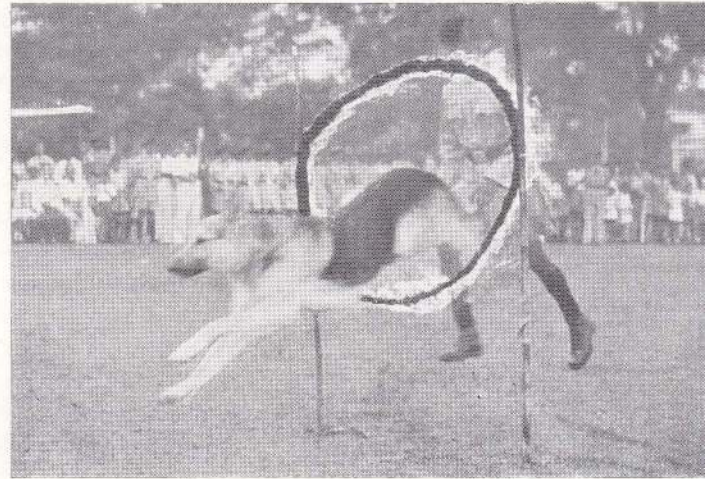
dogs were gifted by public-spirited citizens in response to an islandwide appeal for the gift of dogs. It is hoped to expand and decentralize the establishment in the near future and station dogs in provincial towns so that not only would their services be available on tap but also the risks involved in excessive travelling from one central place would be obviated.

### Early Experiment

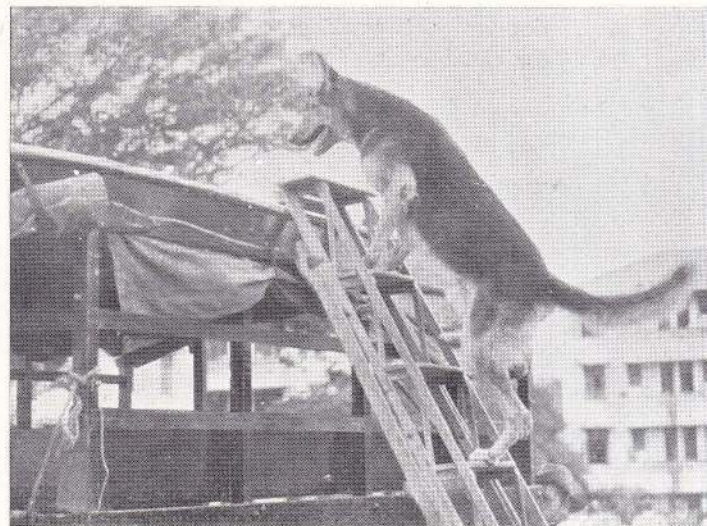
AT the start experiments were tried with cross-bred Dingoes, a species of wild dogs from Australia. These, however, proved a failure. They retained a bit too much of their wild instinct, with the result that when tracking, if a child or any animal or bird crossed the scent, the Dingo would leave the scent aside and go after the new scent. The Dingoes were therefore presented to a good home. A cross breed between the Alsatian and the local 'pie' dog was also experimented upon, but the result has not been too favourable. Although the product of the cross was capable of offering greater resistance to climate and diseases such as kidney trouble, it tended to inherit the undesirable qualities and characteristics of the 'pie' dog, which are quite unsuited for Police work. Experience has shown that dogs selected for police work should have such qualities as intelligence, keen scent, endurance, reliability, speed, and courage. The Alsatian and Labrador breeds possess these attributes to a predominant degree and hence our Police dogs are drawn at present from these two breeds. The Alsatian, the German sheep dog, was first tried out on Police work in 1896. Since then it has been largely used on police duties in Germany and other countries with conspicuous success. It is both an intelligent and a hardy dog, being adaptable to any kind of climate. The Labradors were tried out in Ceylon for the first time in 1952. Two pups were purchased for the Kennels and proved their usefulness when they were hardly a year old. In the official inquiry held in England in 1935 on the use of dogs for police work, it was held that the Labradors were

the most suitable for general patrol work. Another breed that has been tried out very successfully in Germany and the U. K. is the Doberman Pinscher, which like the Alsatian is of German origin. Opinion seems to vary as to which of the two is the more efficient for police work. It is said that the Doberman Pinscher is better constituted to stand hot climates and is a more natural and a quicker tracker than the

Fire holds no terrors for "Flash"



Height is no problem for a police dog





Alsatian, but that it is more moody and temperamental and takes longer to mature than the latter. While the Alsatian existed as a breed which was found most suitable for training as a police patrol, guard, and service dog, and as 'seeing eye' guide to the blind, it is claimed that the Doberman Pinscher was deliberately created to embody preconceived physical and mental ideals, through human ingenuity in scientific canine breeding, for excelling in all the duties that the Alsatian was employed on. It is probable that dogs of this breed, which are reported to be doing admirable work for the Surrey Constabulary in the U. K., will join their Alsatian and Labrador brothers in the Ceylon Police Kennels in the near future.

Just as the finger prints of no two persons are alike, the scent of every human being or animal is different. Any mongrel will find out his master or his belongings distinctly from the rest. The thing called scent is an effluvium or oily substance, which constantly issues from the pores of all human beings and animals, and consists of very minute particles, which when blown by the wind come into contact with the olfactory nerves of the dog. It also clings to the ground where one walks or to anything one touches or handles. This explains how a dog picks up a scent and follows its trail. We cannot indeed be sufficiently grateful to Nature for having gifted the dog with this amazing power for man to exploit for the benefit of society.

### Crime Detection

THE achievements of the Ceylon Police dogs in crime detection during the short space of five years constitute a most impressive record. On numerous occasions they have helped in establishing the identity of offenders. Many criminals would probably have escaped detection and prosecution but for the invaluable assistance rendered by the dogs in tracing them.

They proved a signal success on the first occasion on which they were used in crime investigation—a case of burglary of cash and cheques amounting

to Rs. 5,000 at Ratnapura in October, 1950. At the scene of crime was found a handkerchief, which did not belong to any inmate of the house in question, and which did not contain any dhoby or other marks by which it could be traced to any particular person. Police dogs "Tarzan" and "Rex" were brought down from Kandy to unravel the crime. The dogs, having "sniffed" the handkerchief, went about the compound for a few minutes, and, having picked up the scent, went without hesitation along a footpath through some compounds, and after traversing a distance of about 500 yards entered a house, the chief occupant of which was absent at the time. The animals then got out of the house and went along the main road for about 50 yards and started walking round and round one particular person, who happened to be the chief occupant of the house the dogs had entered, and who also was suspected by the local Police. To confirm this finding the dogs were given a further test. The animals were taken away from the scene, and the suspect and another man were made to stand at one spot and then taken in different directions about 300 yards from the spot. The dog "Tarzan" was brought to the spot and given the handkerchief to "sniff". Without any hesitation whatsoever the dog made its way to the suspect and picked him out of a crowd of ten persons in a bungalow.

### The Horana Murder

THE following month the dogs proved their detective prowess in a case of accused unknown murder at Horana. The only clue available in this case was a sheath made out of an arecanut branch found close to the deceased's body. The dogs "Rex" and "Sheba" picked up the scent from this sheath and followed it through a hilly rubber estate on to a village road and across the ridge of a paddy field on to the house of one of the suspects, nearly half a mile away. The suspect was not in the house at the time but was arrested the following day, and the knife used in the murder was traced and found to be one which the sheath



in question fitted. The dogs certainly did a splendid job in this case, despite the fact that the murder had been committed 24 hours earlier and a shower of rain that had fallen in the meantime had tended to obliterate traces of the scent.

The same month "Rex" and "Sheba" were taken to Avissawella to trace the accused in a case of alleged murder. The dogs went to the house of the suspect and followed the trail for about 20 miles, going to each and every spot alleged to have been visited by the suspect. The suspect, on hearing of the arrival of the dogs, crossed the Kelani Ganga and surrendered to the Headman on the other side of the river.

In June, 1951, the dog "Rex" not only traced the accused in a case of burglary at Ullapole in Mirigama Police area, but also recovered the stolen property, some of which was hidden in a shrub jungle and some in a pit in the compound of the suspect's house.

In November the same year a case of burglary occurred in Kandy, the police inquiry into which met with no success in the first instance. The dogs were called into action and, within 15 minutes of picking up the scent from a handbag

in the house in question, traced all the stolen property, which were hidden half a mile away from scene of the burglary in pits in five different places in a large tea estate.

In many other cases of murder, housebreaking and theft, robbery, etc., the dogs have been responsible for the tracing of the offenders and the stolen property. Of course there have been some failures but these were due to such causes as late information, bad weather, and careless handling of clues by inmates. There is no doubt that the dogs have become the terror of the criminals. The fear that a dog's nose would sniff out the truth has led to a confession of guilt in not a few cases. In March last year, in a case of accused unknown housebreaking and theft, the knowledge that the dogs were after them made the suspects surrender to the Police.

The Police dogs have become an integral part of the machinery of crime investigation in this country. The criminal has now to reckon against him not only the increasing technical and scientific aids to crime detection, but also the formidable detective prowess of trained Police dogs. They are indeed the world's finest detectives, and perhaps even more infallible than finger prints.





Padaviya Dagaba—uncleared before excavation

## The Excavations at Padaviya

THE first archaeological excavations at Padaviya in the North-Central Province were carried out when Mr. D. T. Devendra, Assistant Commissioner of Archaeology opened in mid-October two small *dagabas* by the main breach of the tank. The Archaeological Commissioner, Dr. S. Paranavitana, had decided on this action after a recent inspection of the area, which is being rapidly opened on a development plan of the Irrigation Department. The two monuments were endangered by the work on the breach, due to commence at the close of the North-East monsoon, and it was imperative that all possible information be gathered early for the records of the Archaeological Department.

The two *dagabas* are marked in a plan attached to the *Seventh Progress Report* by Bell who,

however, located them as aligned east-west, whereas they were in a line due north from the bund. The ancient remains of the area were first explored for the Archaeological Department by Wickremasinghe, who was immediately followed by Bell, in October 1891. Henry Parker, Irrigation Engineer, too, had noticed them in 1886.

The smaller or southern *dagaba* was excavated but its relic chamber had already been opened at some unknown time. Nevertheless, large whole bricks of the Polonnaruwa period were secured from within. These bricks are of the size recorded by Parker from the Padaviya sluice and, as mentioned in the inscribed pillar of Parakramabahu I still standing on the bund west of the big breach, possibly date from the repair to the tank by this well-known king.



The other *dagaba*, which is somewhat larger, had with the collapse a circumference of 118 ft. and a height of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft. Trenching from the east revealed that it had been built on a *maluva* of rubble stamped down with earth. Large-sized round water-borne stones appeared conspicuous here. There were also potsherds, fragments of a bangle of the kind found in Mantai, and, oddly enough, marine finds comprising two halves of the shell of an oyster, and a bit of coral stone. One terrace was faced with rubble, but the casing of the *dagaba* was of brick-bats embedded in the earth. Whole bricks were found in the relic-chamber which was reached  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft. from the top, when a shaft was sunk to save damage to the east wall which the trench exposed.

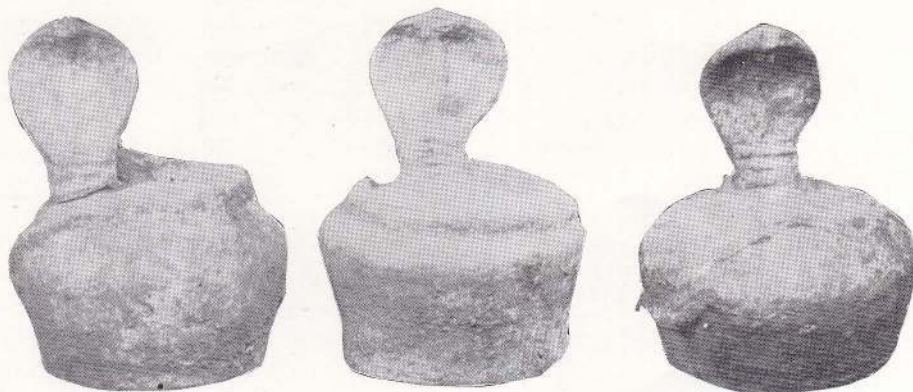
### The Chamber

A limestone slab 4 ft. by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  with a thickness of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. covered the mouth of the chamber which had been corbelled to reduce its dimensions by 3 in. The chamber, otherwise cubical, measured  $2\frac{2}{3}$  ft. It was built with bricks laid in mud mortar; they averaged  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $5\frac{3}{4}$  by 2 and the wall was as thick as the length of a brick. The chamber was covered with termite nests and clay, which had been doubtless kneaded by many generations of insects into concrete hardness. When patient labour cleared it, the result was reward enough, for within were found types,

objects and an arrangement not previously found in an archaeological excavation.

Terracotta standing lamps averaging 18 in. in height were ranged along the walls, besides being placed in each corner. Each wall had a niche 10 by 10 in. and 7 in. deep in which was a Buddha image in *dhyani mudra*, but not on a pedestal. The largest of these images,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  in. high and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  across the knees, is in bronze and gilt. Weighing  $3\frac{3}{4}$  lb., it is an excellent specimen which exhibits several interesting artistic features. It had been deposited on the east. The image on the south, of which only the front half was found, is of gold sheet; it is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in. high and 2 in. across. That on the west of which more is preserved is also of gold sheet and measures  $3\frac{1}{8}$  in. by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  across. In its *siraspota* is an uncut, polished, red stone. The north wall had the smallest image, which is only  $1\frac{7}{8}$  in. by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  across; it is of bronze and gilt.

In front of each image was a copper jingling-bell (*kin-kini*), its mouth well moulded; in front of the bell was a terracotta cobra 12 in. long, shown moving along the floor with head raised and hood open. In front of this was a terracotta cobra with expanded hood, resting on a hollow pedestal which narrows towards the bottom, much like an inverted rimless pot, both in one piece. Its overall height is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. The cobras were so arranged as to create the impression of movement



Padaviya *Dagaba*—three of the terracotta cobras on base.  
These deposits were found here for the first time in an excavation in Ceylon



in a clockwise direction. The cobras, bells, and the general disposition of the deposits are so far unique.

There was found no positive evidence as to the date of the construction of the *dagaba*. Incised on a fragment of a pillar from the collapse of a stone pillared porch on the south-eastern side were found two characters *ki tu* of the 3rd or 4th century. These were found repeated in the remains of a stone building on the tank bed opposite. These, however, may be of a different

period. A study of the method of construction of the *dagaba* and its chamber as well as of the unique deposits and their arrangement tentatively suggests the tenth century.

It is fortunate that this comparatively small mound has miraculously escaped the destroying hand of men who, under the cover of thick forest in the Vanni wilderness, had ravaged bigger *dagabas* and other shrines, mutilating even large stone statues in their consuming greed for gold.



Padaviya *Dagaba*—the largest Buddha found, of bronze and gilt ; it was in the niche of the East Wall



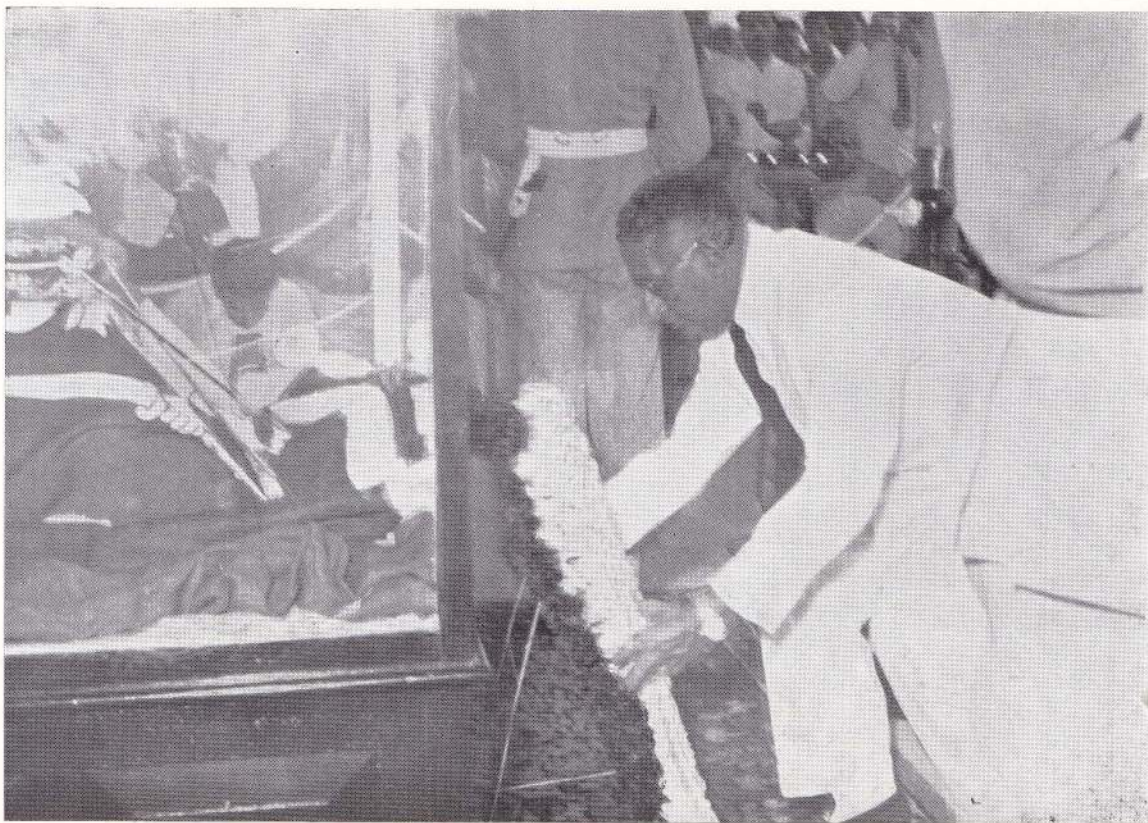


Above—Padaviya *Dagaba*. West Wall of relic chamber when it has been excavated to show the deposits



Left—Padaviya *Dagaba*. Buddha image of gold sheet, found in the niche of the South Wall. Right—Buddha image of gold sheet, found in the niche of the West Wall. Note the unusually decorative *Sirasapota* (conventionalized halo) with a red precious stone set in it





The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, laying a wreath at the foot of the casket containing the skull of Kappitipola Disava

## Hero Remembered

ON the 5th of November the Prime Minister attended the ceremony that marked the formal exposition of the skull of Kappitipola Disava.

Kappitipola Disava was one of the chieftains of the Sinhalese kingdom who signed the Kandyan Convention on the second of March, 1815, whereby the last Sinhalese King of Kandy, Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe, was deposed and his dominions vested in the King of England. Thus ended the independence of the Kandyan people after a period of 2,358 years.

On the settlement which followed the Convention, the Governor, Lieutenant-General (later Sir) Robert Brownrigg, appointed Kappitipola Maha Disava of Uva. It soon became clear that Kappitipola did not suffer the new Government gladly. Besides, the Kandyan priests, with the chiefs and the people, would not acquiesce in the new settlement, having been accustomed to freedom for 23 centuries, and having successfully defied the several attempts made by three European nations during three centuries to subjugate them. After two months of the signing of the Convention, they agreed to overthrow



British rule. "A deep and extensive plot to annihilate British power" ended in the 1817-18 war for independence, and its hero was Kappitipola, to commemorate whose name this memorial has now been built.

The rebellion broke out in October, 1817, over the appointment, by the British Governor, of a Moor Mohandiram over the Muslim population in Wellassa. Meanwhile a Pretender to the Throne, Doraisamy, who claimed to be the son of a brother-in-law of Kirti Sri Raja Singhe, appeared in Wellassa; he proclaimed himself King and his demand for allegiance met with an immediate response. All efforts to negotiate with the "insurgents" proved futile. Sir Robert Brownrigg thereupon placed Uva and Wellassa under martial law on November 1st and a reward was offered for the capture of Doraisamy the Pretender. News came within the next few days that Kappitipola Disava of Uva had joined the Pretender and he had accepted office under Doraisamy as Maha Adigar and was commanding the operations against the British. District after District rose in rebellion and by January 1st, 1818, almost the entire Kandyan kingdom was fighting for the restoration of her lost independence. Governor Brownrigg proclaimed Kappitipola and 18 others to be "rebels, outlaws and enemies of His Britannic Majesty's Government". Their lives were declared forfeited and their property confiscated. Kappitipola was declared the leader of the gang.

### Martial Law Declared

THE revolt however was becoming more and more intense and, by February 18th, martial law had been declared in the whole of the Kandyan Provinces. A reward of 1,000 gold pagodas was offered for the head of Kappitipola, and an equal sum for the heads of Pilima Talawe and Madugalle. The situation was so serious that arrangements were

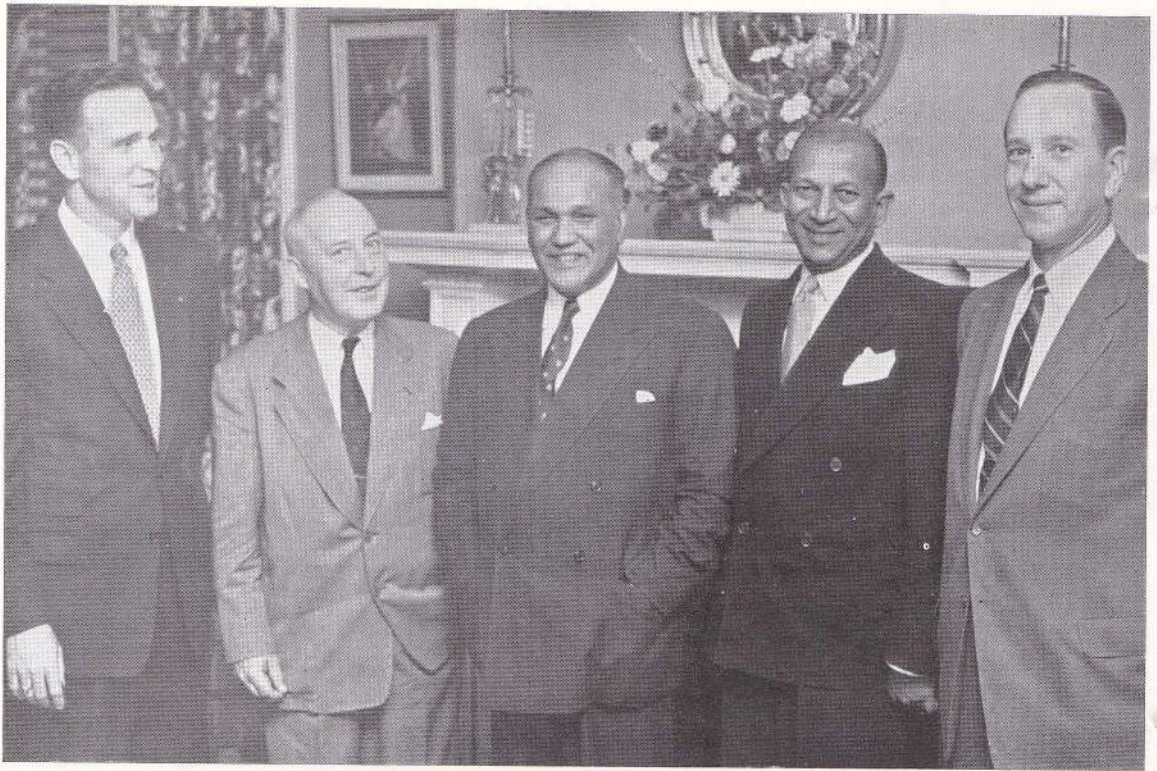
made to withdraw the British troops. In June, 1818, the Secretary of State made order to evacuate, but the order came too late. Reinforcements had arrived meanwhile from India. The rebellion reached its climax from June to August. Fighting had abated by August and all was quiet by October.

Kappitipola and Pilima Talawe were captured on October 28, 1818, by Lt. William O'Neill; they were brought to Kandy under armed guard and on November 13th Kappitipola was tried by court martial.

Kappitipola was executed on November 26th, 1818. The cranium of the departed Disava was subsequently presented to the Museum of the Phrenological Society of Edinburgh by Henry Marshal, F.R.S.E., who came to Ceylon in 1808 as Deputy Inspector-General of Army Hospitals. It was restored to Ceylon when the country gained her independence.

Says Marshal—"Had the insurrection been successful, Kappitipola would have been honoured and characterized as a patriot instead of being stigmatized as a rebel and punished as a traitor". It is as a patriot that the country honours Kappitipola, and to commemorate whose name a memorial has been built at the Kandy Esplanade. The memorial is based on a platform of the architecture of the Anuradhapura period. The monument itself is a Kandyan pillar, and stands on a moulded base of the same period. The central cube carries four panels (adapted from carvings at Ambekka Devala) on each of which is carved the figure of a Sinhalese soldier in the attitude of fighting. The capital of the pillar is in turn surmounted by a *Vimana* (copied from Gadadeniya Vihara at Kandy). The pillar symbolizes the brave chief who laid down his life for his country. The panel relief portrays his act and the *Vimana* signifies that he has been exalted to the position of a higher spirit.





Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene, Ceylon's Ambassador to the United States, who spoke at the Lancaster Club Meeting on the 6th October, here seen left to right with Mr. Robert Harnes, program chairman of Lancaster Club ; Dr. Fred Avrten, President of the Letitz Club ; the Ambassador ; Dr. W. G. Wickremasinghe, the Ambassador's guest ; and Mr. C. L. Snavely, his host

## Foreign Affairs

THE Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, made the following statement in the House of Representatives on November 5 with regard to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting.

" The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has recently been in touch with me and with the Prime Ministers of other Commonwealth countries about the holding of another meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. The House will recall that the last such meeting took place at the time of the Coronation. Many events of

great international importance have taken place since that meeting and my colleagues in other Commonwealth countries and I have agreed that a further meeting in the near future would be desirable. January 31, 1955, has been accepted as a date convenient to all, and the meeting is to be held in London.

I know that Honourable Members will join me in welcoming this opportunity for consultation with the Heads of other Commonwealth Governments from which, as on former occasions, I am confident that general benefit will result."



### Ceylon-China Trade

THE Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, made the following statement in the House of Representatives on November 5, with regard to Ceylon's Trade Pact with China.

"As Honourable Members are aware, the Hon. Mr. Shirley Corea, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Fisheries, recently led a Mission to China for the purpose of negotiating prices for rubber and rice for the year 1955, in terms of our 5-year Rubber/Rice Agreement with China, which was signed in Peking in 1952.

Discussions with the Chinese Government lasted over three weeks and, after a great deal of hard bargaining with the Chinese, agreement was reached at 27d. per lb. as the price of rubber and £ 39 per metric ton as the price of rice. The main difficulty in the way of reaching agreement was the Chinese insistence that the ratio of the prices of rubber and rice should remain at the figure it happened to be during the previous two years. This was, of course, not acceptable to Ceylon because, apart from the fact that there is no intrinsic relation between the prices of the two commodities, the price of rice had fallen considerably during the two years and the price of rubber had risen slightly. Eventually the Ceylon point of view was accepted by the Chinese and the ratio of prices for 1955 works out to 6.35 to 1, as against 5.44 to 1 in the current year. Although the price of rubber has been fixed at a penny less than the current year's price, it is still 5½d. above the world price; we have obtained a reduction of £ 8 per ton in the price of rice.

Ceylon is bound by the Agreement to purchase the same quantity of rice, viz., 270,000 tons, but the Chinese have agreed that we may actually take less than this quantity provided we buy other commodities of equivalent value to the rice we do not take. As Honourable Members will know, we shall have a surplus of about 100,000 tons of rice in 1955, if we take the full

quantity from China. If we fail to obtain other Chinese goods in lieu of this 100,000 tons of rice, we shall endeavour to sell our surplus in other markets. Negotiations have already been initiated in several quarters and we are hopeful of being able to dispose of this surplus without loss to Government.

Based on the prices fixed for 1955, the Chinese will at the end of that year owe us a sum of £1.8 million, representing the imbalance between the cost of the rubber they buy and the rice they sell. China has agreed to liquidate this imbalance either by the sale to us of other commodities acceptable to us at world market prices or, failing that, in sterling. Apart from goods required by Ceylon, the possibility of our developing an *entrepôt* trade in other Chinese commodities for sale to other countries is being actively examined. This will also help in settling the imbalance in the rubber-rice trade.

The prices negotiated for 1955 secure a profit for Ceylon of Rs. 34 million on rubber, and ensure a supply of rice at a price lower than is obtainable from any other source. Honourable Members will see that this year's negotiations with China have given Ceylon very advantageous terms, perhaps more so than any of the contracts negotiated with China in the previous years."

### Ceylon-Egypt Trade

THE Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, made the following statement in the House of Representatives on November 5, with regard to Ceylon's trade with Egypt.

"Egypt, as Honourable Members are aware, is one of our most important markets for low-grown teas. Normally Egypt has been buying Rs. 60 million worth of teas annually from Ceylon. On account of the scarcity of Sterling, the Egyptian authorities were placing increasing restrictions on the import of tea from Ceylon, and in



May, 1954, they completely banned the import of Ceylon tea. This action would have had serious repercussions on the Ceylon tea industry, and especially on that section producing low-grown teas for which Egypt is one of the principal markets.

In order to solve this problem a trade delegation from Ceylon led by the Minister of Commerce, Trade and Fisheries recently visited Egypt and negotiated with the Egyptian Government

a trade agreement, the most important clauses of which are as follows :—

Import and export licences shall be issued freely by both Contracting Parties in respect of exports and imports of each country. In other words, the flow of trade between the two countries will be unhampered. Two lists of schedules attached to the Agreement enumerate the commodities which the two countries can export to each other.

The New Zealand Minister of External Affairs, Mr. T. C. Webb, pins a medallion on Miss Lily Gamalatge of Ceylon at the graduation ceremony of school dental nurses in Wellington, New Zealand





The Agreement will be valid for one year from the date of approval and may be automatically renewed for annual periods. Either Government can terminate the Agreement at three months' notice.

The Trade Agreement will be brought into operation through a Payments Agreement which provides that all payments between the countries shall be accounted for in sterling. In return for unlimited export of Ceylon products to Egypt, Ceylon will purchase Egyptian products up to the value of at least Rs. 20 million. The Central Bank of Ceylon will open an account with the National Bank of Egypt for an equivalent of Rs. 20 million in Egyptian pounds, these pounds being acquired by selling sterling to Egypt. From time to time the National Bank of Egypt shall re-sell to the Central Bank of Ceylon an amount of sterling corresponding to the value of exports from Egypt to Ceylon. At the end of the year of currency a mixed committee will discuss the means of settlement of any unutilized balance remaining in the account.

This Agreement will once again open the Egyptian market for Ceylon teas and also for any other products. It is undoubtedly beneficial to the country, and has ensured to the tea industry, particularly the low-grown teas, the continuance of a valuable market. The Agreement will be formally signed by Mr. S. C. Shirley Corea in Cairo about the middle of November on his return from the Geneva GATT Conference. The Agreement will be tabled in this House in due course."

#### **P. M.s Message to Cambodia**

THE following telegram was sent on November 2nd by the Prime Minister of Ceylon to the Prime Minister of Cambodia on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

"The Government and people of Ceylon join me in extending to the Government and people of Cambodia sincere felicitations and best wishes on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia."

#### **P. M.s Message to Sweden**

THE following telegram was sent on November 11, by the Prime Minister of Ceylon to the Prime Minister of Sweden on the occasion of the Swedish National Day.

"The Government and people of Ceylon join me in extending to the Government and people of Sweden felicitations and best wishes on the occasion of Swedish National Day, 1954."

#### **Ceylon at Malaria Conference**

CEYLON was represented at the Malaria Conference of the Western Pacific and South East Asian countries held in the Philippines from November 15th to 27th, 1954. Ceylon's delegate was Dr. S. Rajendran, Superintendent, Anti-Malaria Campaign.

#### **Ceylon at UNESCO Conference**

CEYLON is being represented at the Eighth Session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that commenced in Montevideo, Uruguay, on November 12 and will be continued till December 11, 1954.

Ceylon's delegates are Col. R. J. F. Mendis, Deputy Director of Education (Leader), and Dr. S. A. Abeywickrema of the University of Ceylon (who is the representative of the Ceylon Association of Science on the UNESCO National Commission of Ceylon).



## Books about Ceylon

### Selections from a Bibliography (continued)

LYN de FONSEKA

#### Ferguson, Donald W.

[Journalist, Linguist, Scholar, Antiquarian, and "The Profoundest student of the Portuguese period of Ceylon History". Second son of A. M. Ferguson; born at Colombo, on October 8, 1853; educated at High Gate and Mill Hill, and came out to join the *Ceylon Observer* in 1871, finally becoming its co-proprietor and co-Editor with his father, for many years.

Though educated as a medical man, he acquired a proficiency in the classical, Germanic and Romance Languages. Besides his knowledge of Sinhalese and Tamil, he was well versed in French, Italian, German, Danish, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish.

His tastes were literary and history was his main interest, displaying itself principally in the study of the original and manuscript sources.

He was the mainstay of the *Ceylon Literary Register*, *Monthly Literary Register*, and the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, C. B., and all scholars owe him a debt of gratitude for his pioneering work.

Ill-health, however, compelled him to leave Ceylon in 1892, and he finally settled down in Croydon. His interest in research never waned. He spent his time mostly in the British Museum Library, copying and translating documents bearing on Ceylon, and assisting those who were engaged in Oriental research.

He died at Croydon, on June 29, 1910. Passing a vote of condolence on his death, at a meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society, C. B., Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, said :—

"He was a man of varied and profound research, master of many languages—ancient and modern. There was scarcely a branch of Ceylon History or antiquities in which his opinion was not listened to with attention and respect.

"But the field which he made specially his own was the Portuguese and Dutch Period of Ceylon History—and specially the Portuguese Period.

"He was indeed a rare type of Scholar. His life should be an example and a stimulus to us all."

Ferguson's Library, which was purchased by the late Mr. D. R. Wijewardena, is now housed in the Government Archives, Nuwara Eliya. Its Descriptive Catalogue,

beautifully illustrated, was compiled by the Government Archivist, Mr. J. H. O. Paulusz, and published by the Ceylon Daily News Press in 1948.]

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Captain Robert Knox: The Twenty Years' Captive in Ceylon, &c. Contributions towards a Biography. Colombo and Croydon, 1896-97.

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