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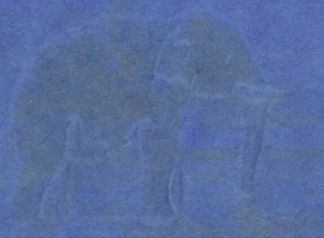
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of the Visit of
The Duke of Gloucester.

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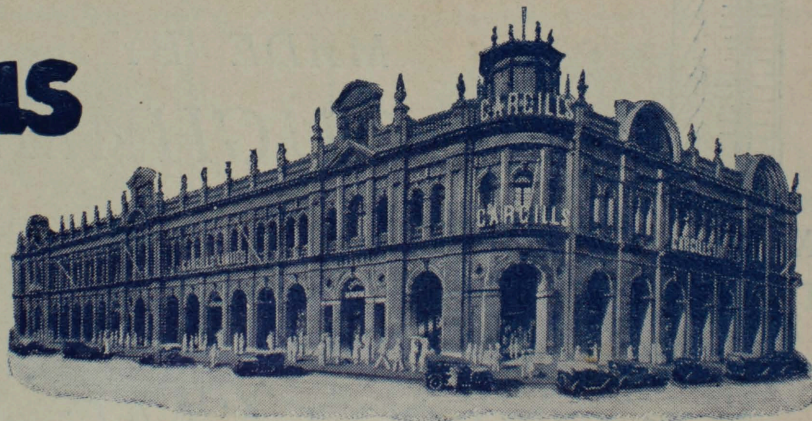


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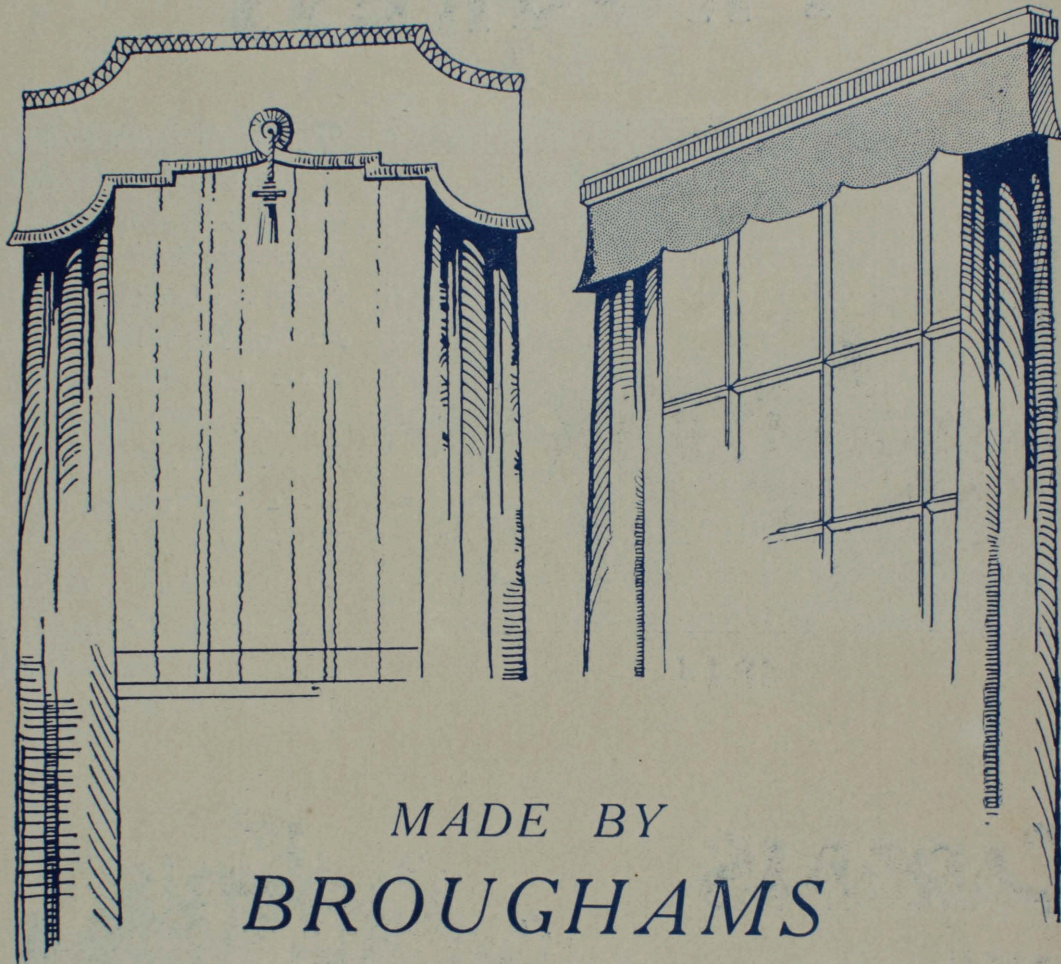
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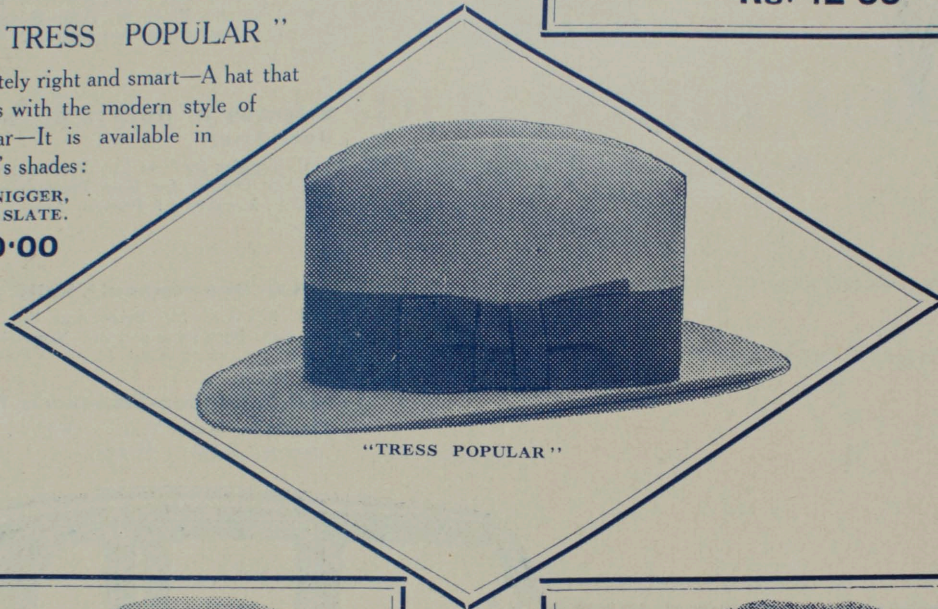
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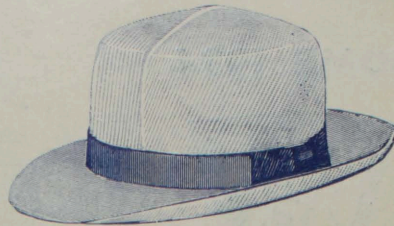
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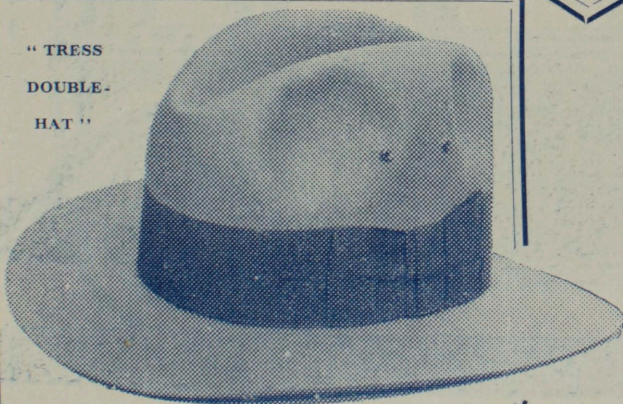


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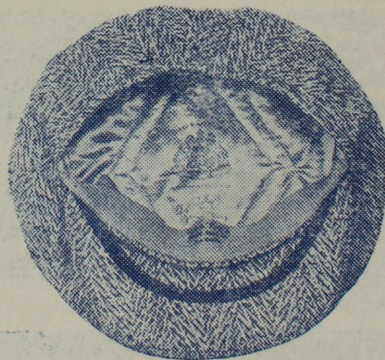
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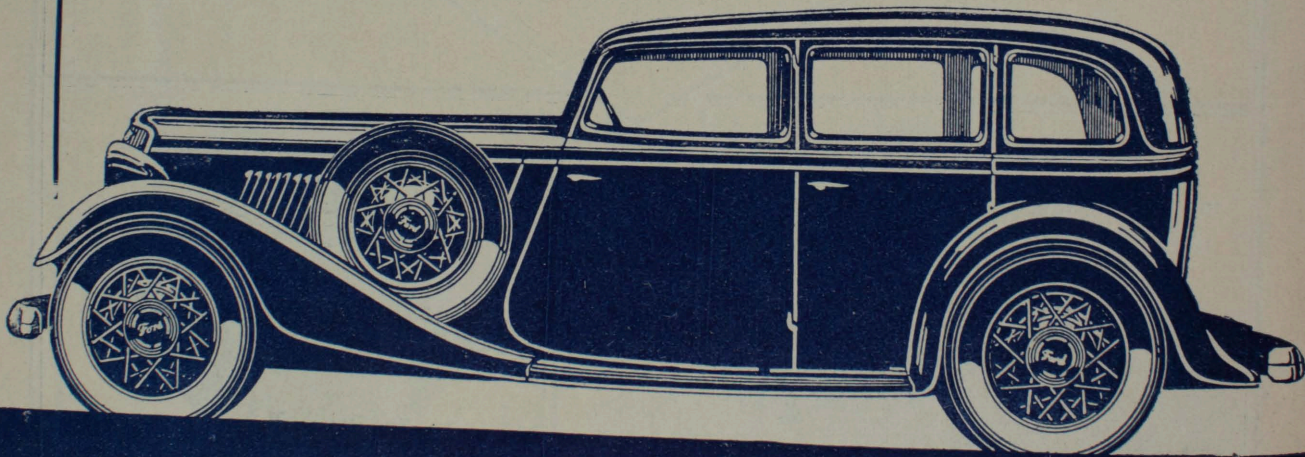
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CEYLON UNDER BRITISH RULE.

A Souvenir of the Visit of the Duke of Gloucester

Compiled by SAM P. C. FERNANDO.

Author of "BANK BALANCE", "THE OXFORD WAY", ETC.

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" And Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book. "

I. Sam. 10. 25.

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H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER.

CEYLON UNDER BRITISH RULE

FOREWORD

WE do not think that any apology is needed for the publication of this book—much less for its contents. The generous act of His Majesty in sending back to Ceylon the Throne and Crown of the Kandyan Kings, by one of his own sons, is alone a sufficient incentive for reflecting on an Era of unparalleled development in the history of this country.

We are not, at the same time, unaware of a growing feeling of unrest among the indigenous population—an unrest which varies from idle discontent to rabid fanaticism.

For over half a century, the people of Ceylon have been accustomed to accuse the Britisher of “exploitation”;—but during the same period they have suffered themselves to be exploited to an even greater degree by the Indians and the Japanese. If to “exploit” is to be active and enterprising, while others are dormant and dull, then indeed, the Indians, Japanese, and the British have been guilty of “exploitation.”

But if only the wealth of the Ceylonese had been utilised, towards the industrial development of their motherland, instead of being jealously and selfishly hoarded, the story of Ceylon would have been different from what it is today.

Not even in the political sphere have we shown ourselves capable of self-government. The irresistible tendency on the part of some members of the State Council to abuse every little privilege they are granted, as well as of prospective members to arouse the religious and communal prejudices of the Electorate, is alone sufficient to make us wonder whether the destinies of a country are safe in the hands of such “leaders.”

Until such time as the minority castes, communities and creeds find that social and religious differences are no bar to equal recognition and power, it is more towards the good of the country that the administration should ultimately rest with an impartial body.

We yield to none in our desire to see Ceylon a member of that vast Commonwealth of Nations. But, if the progress is slow, we Ceylonese ourselves are to blame.

The difficulty in compiling this book has been equally one of inclusion—considering the limited space available—as well as of exclusion, considering the numerous spheres of development. We confess that we ought to have at least included an account of the educational progress during the last hundred years; but console ourselves with the thought that the soaring number of qualified and professional men is alone a sufficient index thereto. Nor would we suffer to pass unappreciated the contribution of other Christian and non-Christian bodies, besides the Church of England, towards the cultural and educational progress of Ceylon.

We dedicate this book to our countrymen therefore, in order that they may either dispassionately read and digest what is contained therein and follow the pioneers of Ceylon's agricultural development, or treat it, with the contempt which they may once again fanatically think it deserves.

The salvation of a country lies, not in the grandeur of its Past, but in the security of its Future.

THE COMPILER.

Moratuwa, 20th Sept., 1934.

The Royal Ambassador

— A Life Sketch —

THE third son of the King and Queen, Prince Henry William Frederick Albert, Duke of Gloucester, was born on the 31st of March, 1901. Though educated at Eton, he was more fond of the army than of general studies, and soon joined the army class at the school. Later, being still enthusiastic about a military career, he joined Sandhurst and underwent a full training. Afterwards he joined Trinity College, Cambridge, and at the University showed a keen interest in outdoor sports.

Physically, he is stronger and taller than his two elder brothers—the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York. He has devoted himself energetically to polo and hunting, long distance running and even cricket.

In 1920, he was gazetted as Second Lieutenant of the King's Royal Rifles, and subsequently, was appointed Second Lieutenant of the Tenth Hussars. His career was marked by remarkable progress and by 1926, he had risen to the rank of Captain of the Tenth Hussars.

The King, however, had always desired that no special recognition should be paid to the princes by way of rapid promotion. The Duke was therefore, given as full a share of the work of the regiment as any other officer. And so it happened that he appeared much less in public than did the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York.

In the First Cavalry Brigade Steeplechases in 1921, he won a point-to-point race and annexed the Infantry Cup. His fine horsemanship combined with his being an excellent polo player has made him popular among leading sportsmen.

On his coming of age, the Order of the Garter was bestowed on him and three years later he was made a Member of the Privy Council.

He is a High Steward of King's Lynn, a Freeman of London, Edinburgh and Glasgow and a Bencher of Gray's Inn.

In 1928, the titles of Duke of Gloucester, Earl of Ulster and Baron Culloden were conferred on him.

The Duke was in East Africa on a shooting expedition in 1928, on which occasion he did not hesitate to venture over rough tracks. He bagged a number of water-bucks, gazelles and lions, during his trip.

Five years ago he was in Colombo on his way to Japan, whither he was bound to convey the insignia of the Order of the Garter to the Emperor. The Emperor in return conferred on him the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum.

On his way back home he broke his collar bone while indulging in a game of polo at Vancouver.

In 1930, he was in Abyssinia representing the King, at the Coronation of

the Emperor, Ras Tafari, and here too he spent much of his time on a shooting trip. His adventures were vividly described in a book which was later published, entitled *Big Game Shooting in Africa*.

He has contributed largely towards scientific and philanthropic work; and, in 1931, was elected President of the Lancashire, Chesire and North Wales Council and of the British Empire Cancer

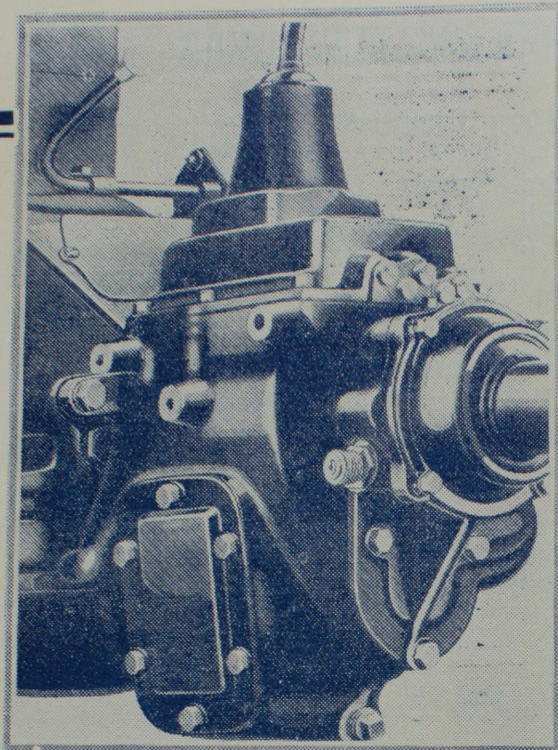
Campaign. He also inaugurated a Lancashire Appeal at Manchester and Liverpool.

Although he has been in many parts of the world he has not yet been to Australia, and his visit on the present voyage will be the first. On this occasion, he will represent the King at the Centenary Celebrations of the State of Victoria and also visit Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane as well as New Zealand.

HAIL PRINCE!

*Blow ye trumpets peal ye bells
 Sound the chords of joy again,
 Sing with us a glad refrain,
 Our royal liege has come to bless
 This winsome isle with happiness;
 To leave a royal gift behind
 Fair token of a sovereign kind!
 'Mid pomp and pageant primeval,
 With song and flag and carnival,
 We welcome him our noble guest
 Bestow of cheer our choicest best:
 Raise your paens your anthems high
 Your souls in rapture to yon sky,
 Let streamered streets and hearts resound
 Gay Jubilation be recrowned,
 Blow, blow ye trumpets, peal ye bells!*

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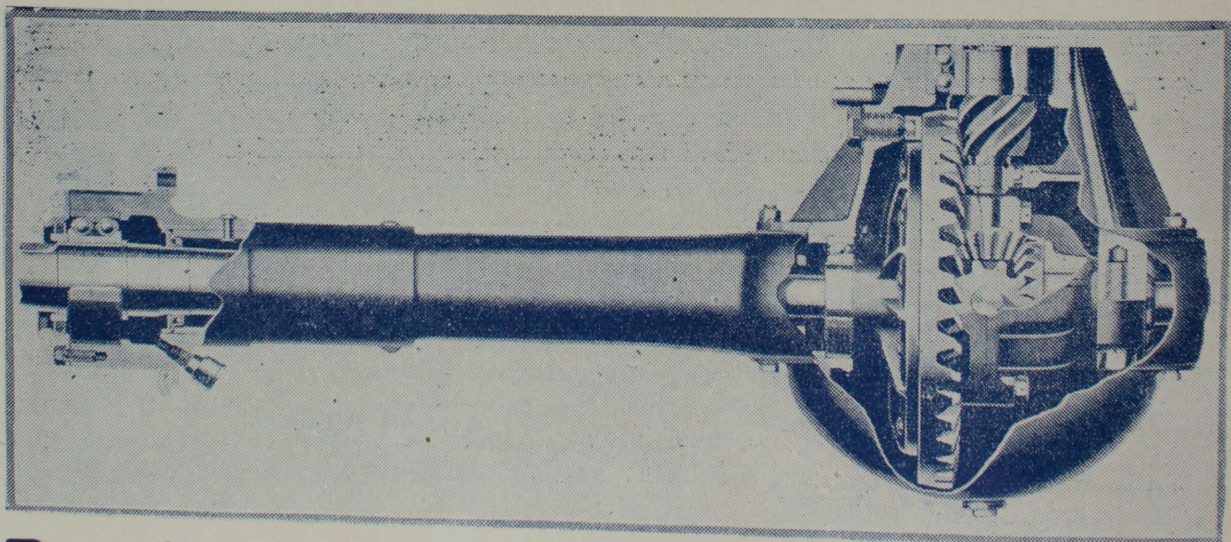
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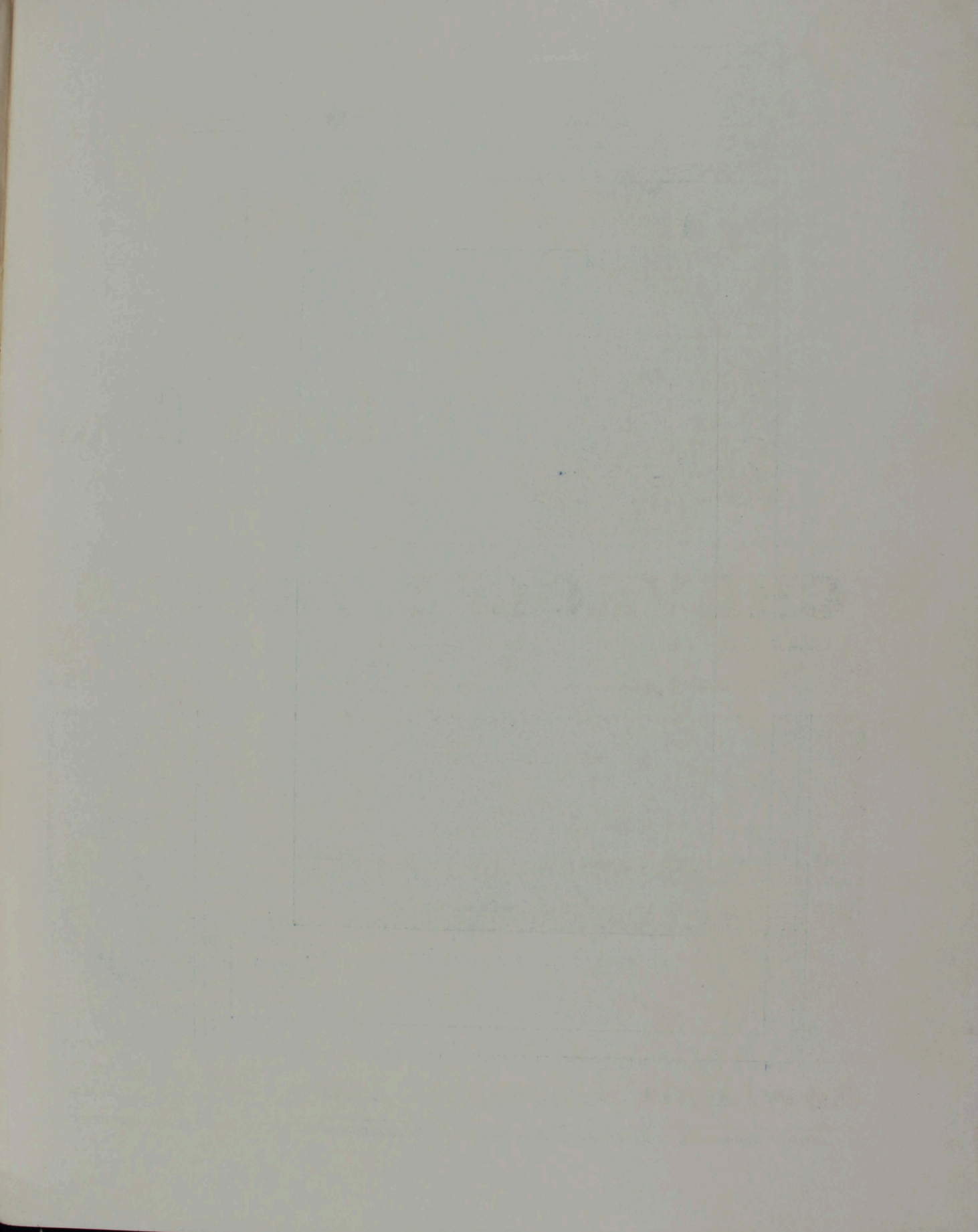
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KING GEORGE V. AS A MIDSHIPMAN IN 1882.

Fifty Years of Acquaintance with Royalty.

By SIR SOLOMON DIAS BANDARANAIKE, K.C.M.G.
(In a Special Interview)

IF you ask me as to whether I have met the Duke of Gloucester, I would say "yes." But then, that was in 1902, when he was mewling in his nurse's arms . . . But of that, anon . . .

My first introduction to Royalty was in 1882—fifty-two years ago—when Their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert Victor and Prince George (now King George V.) arrived in Ceylon as midshipmen on board the H.M.S. *Bacchante*. At Colombo they were given a rousing reception, and at Labugama the chiefs of Sabaragamuwa had arranged an elephant kraal for the entertainment of the Princes.

On the way to Labugama, the Royal party was received by my father at Hanwella Fort, which has been in the direct charge of our family.

At the request of Sir James Longden, Governor, Prince Albert—the Heir Presumptive to the Throne—invested me at this spot with the rank of Muhandiram of the Governor's Gate. I was nineteen years of age at the time, but I remember it as if it were yesterday—how Prince George looked on quite interested at the ceremony, as his elder brother invested me with the sword and belt of office.

I followed the Royal party to the kraal. The bridle path was on the way cut by a ditch. Prince Albert, very prudently, and with

that dignity that becomes a king, preferred to ride round it; but Prince George took it at a flying leap and this was greeted by salvo upon salvo of applause.

The elder Prince was always reserved and more in the company of the Governor.



Sir SOLOMON DIAS BANDARANAIKE, K.C.M.G.

But Prince George was always fond of fun and gaiety.

The Princes were accommodated on a "Crow's Nest" built specially for the purpose. Prince George, however, noticing me in the company of some friends below, shouted out "Come up!" and then pointing out "You come up!" beckoned me to join him in the Royal "Box." I obeyed the command and spent quite a long time listening to a number of charming anecdotes.

In 1895, I was received by the Duke of York (now King George V.), at York House. He had very vivid recollections of his visit to Ceylon thirteen years before. And the next day I had a letter from the Secretary to the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII.), which read: "The Duke of York has spoken to him (meaning the Prince of Wales) about you and His Royal Highness will be happy if you will have the goodness to call at Malborough House, etc." I considered it certainly a great honour, and indeed, very gracious on the part of His Royal Highness, and, of course, readily accepted the invitation. His genial and most charming manner left an indelible impression on my mind.

My next visit to England was in connection with the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, in 1897, when Ceylon sent four representatives at government expense. I had the honour of presenting the delegates to Her Majesty on this occasion at the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

At Downing Street we were allotted official seats to view the Royal Procession. No!—I shall never forget that

Imperial pageantry—the cream stallions and gilt carriages, the Life Guards in scarlet and gold, the great swaying coach bearing the Queen in State . . .

The second visit to Ceylon by a member of the British Royal family that I remember, was when the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (now King George and Queen Mary) visited Ceylon in 1901 on their way to open the Federal Parliament in Australia.

A salute of guns at one o'clock in the afternoon on April 14th, 1901, intimated that their Royal Highnesses had left the vessel. The Duke was dressed in white and wore the Star of India. At the jetty he inspected a guard of honour presented by the 9th Madras Infantry. Thereafter, His Highness proceeded to the enclosure within which were those who had the privilege of being present. The Duchess was attended by two ladies-in-waiting and was the very embodiment of queenly grace.

His Royal Highness calling me up recalled very pleasantly his having met me in 1882, at Hanwella, and in 1895, at York House.

I was attached as an extra A.D.C. to the Royal En Tourage and had the honour and privilege of accompanying Their Royal Highnesses in their State drives both at Kandy and Colombo. I lived both at Queen's House and the King's Pavilion as a member of the Royal party.

There was a large reception at Queen's House held at night, at which the highest of the land were present. The streets and gardens of Queen's House were beautifully illuminated. The task

of presenting the guests devolved on Captain Gooch, A.D.C. to His Excellency and on myself. It was by no means an easy task considering that each person's name had to be announced and the card read out by lamplight.

I remember a curious incident in this connection. A man, who looked a Ceylonese came up to me and presented his card. I looked at it once. I looked at it twice . . . thrice . . . Not for a moment could I decipher the small Roman characters.

It was bad form to keep him waiting, of course . . . "Mr. Brown" I said . . . "Brown" looked at me in horror . . . "Pass on, please" I said quietly. What did it matter if he was Brown, Black or White! "Brown" left as mysteriously as he came, quite satisfied no doubt that he had shaken hands with the Prince.

"For sheer beauty and splendour," as I say in 'Remembered Yesterdays,' "the glittering scene in the Audience Hall at Kandy, when Their Royal Highnesses sat in the seat of a dynasty that was dead, and received the scions of Kandyan Aristocracy, cannot, of course, be equalled."

There were no less than sixty-three elephants in the procession and that gala night passes description. Her Highness

held a special reception to the daughters of the Kandyan chiefs while the Duke presented the Colour to the Ceylon Mounted Rifles.

The next day being Sunday, The Royal Party attended divine service at St. Paul's, Kandy, at which the Rt. Rev. Dr. R. S. Copleston, Bishop, officiated. In

the afternoon His Highness being indisposed, His Excellency the Governor had arranged that the Duchess should be accompanied by the Government Agent of the Central Province in the State carriage. But, at the eleventh hour, Lord Wenlock came up to me and said that the Duke himself was particular that I should attend the Duchess in the drive.

On the occasion of this visit I had the pleasure of presenting to Their Royal Highnesses the fruits of a tree planted by the Duke and his deceased brother, Prince Albert, on the occasion of their visit, in 1882.

Her Royal Highness invested in some very valuable Ceylon jewellery at Queen's House before their departure, and Lord Wenlock of the Royal Party left a cheque with me with which I was requested to settle the jewellers.

Before their departure His Royal Highness sent for me to his chamber and presented me with a set of sleeve links



H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

Reproduced from an autographed photograph. The property of Mr. S. P. Owen of Chatham Street.

(note by compiler: Sir Solomon still treasures the beautiful pair of links—of gold and pure crystal with “1901” and the royal coat of arms delicately cut into the crystal from behind and tinted in red, white and blue).

In 1902, Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein visited Ceylon as guest of Sir Henry and Lady Blake. During her stay, a Siamese Princess too, visited this country. Lady Blake was tremendously pleased with the situation and genially remarked “we have a Princess from the East and a Princess from the West!”

The Coronation of King Edward had been fixed for 27th June, 1902. And I sailed for London by the “*Koenigen Louise*.” I had been hardly forty-eight hours in the city when I received an invitation from my friend, Sir Derek Keppel, equerry in waiting to the Prince and Princess of Wales (the present King and Queen) for a private luncheon with Their Highnesses. I was quite surprised since I did not really know that anybody was aware that I was in London.

But one of the ladies-in-waiting cleared the matter for me when she told me that Her Royal Highness had been driving through the Haymarket the previous afternoon and noticing me, had said: “There goes my Ceylon friend! We must have him for luncheon tomorrow.”

After luncheon the Princess very graciously directed the Royal children to be brought up and I was introduced to them all. The Duke of Gloucester, as I said, was then a mere babe. Princess Mary was the most high-spirited and

persisted in presenting me with a toy duck!

The Coronation, of course, did not come off on the fixed date owing to an acute attack of appendicitis His Royal Highness was suffering from. Several who had gone up to London, were forced to return.

When it was intimated to His Royal Highness by Sir Frederick Treeves that it was impossible to have the Coronation on the 27th June, he is said to have exclaimed “Operation or no operation, I must have the Coronation.” To which Sir Frederick is said to have replied “Then Your Highness will have to go to the Coronation as a corpse.”

Eventually the operation was carried out happily and successfully. I was in London still, and witnessed all the great and gay doings. The Prince was pale; and a human touch was added to it all, when the nurses who attended on him, were driven in the State procession attired in their attractive uniforms.

The Duke of Connaught with the Duchess and Princess Patricia spent a few days in Ceylon, in 1907. The Duchess and Princess with Sir Henry Blake and his daughter and some members of the Royal Party visited Sigiriya; when half way up the rock, they unfortunately disturbed a hive of bees. Ruthlessly the bees attacked them and not until some mosquito-netting had been secured from the Rest-house was the ordeal eased.

The Duke curiously enough, enjoyed a novel experience by himself. He was prevented from going to Sigiriya as he had to be at Diyatalawa, and His Royal Highness was conveyed by special train,

At Hatton, Mudaliyar Casie Chitty had had a novel idea of displaying his loyalty. He had placed a number of detonators on the line and as the express passed, the explosions caused no little consternation. The train was immediately pulled up and proceeded only after each one was satisfied that the other had not been assassinated!

Mudaliyar Casie Chitty on being called upon to explain, later, remarked that he did not consider it necessary to obtain anybody's permission to *display his loyalty* in any manner he thought fit.

There was a State drive from the King's Pavilion at Kandy to the Audience Hall where a reception was accorded to Their Royal Highnesses by the Kandyan chiefs. The first carriage was occupied by the Duke and Lady Blake, the second, by the Duchess and Sir Henry, and the third, by Princess Pat and myself. The Entourage followed in various other conveyances.

When I was in England, in 1920, I was summoned to Buckingham Palace by His Majesty (King George V.) and I had quite a long audience with him.

His first enquiry was about Sir John Anderson who died in Ceylon. His Majesty recalled various incidents during his visits to Ceylon in 1882 and 1901.

A few days later I was given the honour of meeting the present Prince of Wales, and he talked to me a good deal of his intended visit to the East, and of the "stunts" he used to perform in the air, "looping-the-loop," etc. which, however, his father had subsequently prohibited.

I was at Ascot the same year. Her Majesty had noticed me on the terrace in front of the tent of my club which was close to the Royal enclosure, and immediately sent for me by Sir Derek Keppel. And I followed him into the Royal enclosure where Her Majesty engaged me in a very interesting conversation.

The Prince of Wales arrived in Ceylon on Board the H.M.S. Renown, in 1922. I was the only one of the party that went on board that the Prince recognized.

There was a State drive in Colombo and a well-attended garden party followed by a dinner.

The next day, the Prince dressed in the uniform of a Colonel of the C.L.I., presented the Colour.

Two days after his arrival, on the 23rd of March, the Prince left for Kandy by special train and Lord Mount-batten having left the Prince at the station started off by car to arrive in Kandy to meet the Prince.

At Peradeniya, the level-crossing gates were closed and not for all the world would the gateman open them. Even the Prince's coat-of-arms and crest failed to have any effect. Ultimately, Lord Mount-batten had to hold the gatekeeper down while the chauffeur released the gates!

So Lord Mount-batten told me that night.

On the 24th was the Prince of Wales' Meet. The Prince was very anxious to ride. But there were others who prevented it from materialising. Lady Manning humorously suggested that the

Prince be allowed to ride County Cricket—an animal that was notorious for being left behind at the gates.

Before he left, he presented me with a scarf-pin (*note by Compiler*: A pretty pin with the Prince's plumes embossed thereon).

On his return voyage he came back to Ceylon again. He landed at Trinco and travelled overland to Colombo.

Among others I met in Ceylon and abroad are H.I.H. The Tsarevitch, who visited Ceylon in 1891 and whom I entertained to a luncheon at Hanwella. Later, as Tsar of All Russias, during the Revolution he was put to death by the Bolsheviks.

The King of Siam was here in 1897, and I was detailed to escort him to Kandy. In 1906, The King of Cambodia arrived in Ceylon, and I was deputed to go on board and welcome him on behalf of the Governor.

In 1910, the German Crown Prince (Little Willie) was in Ceylon, and the day after his arrival I took him and the Governor for a motor drive in my car.

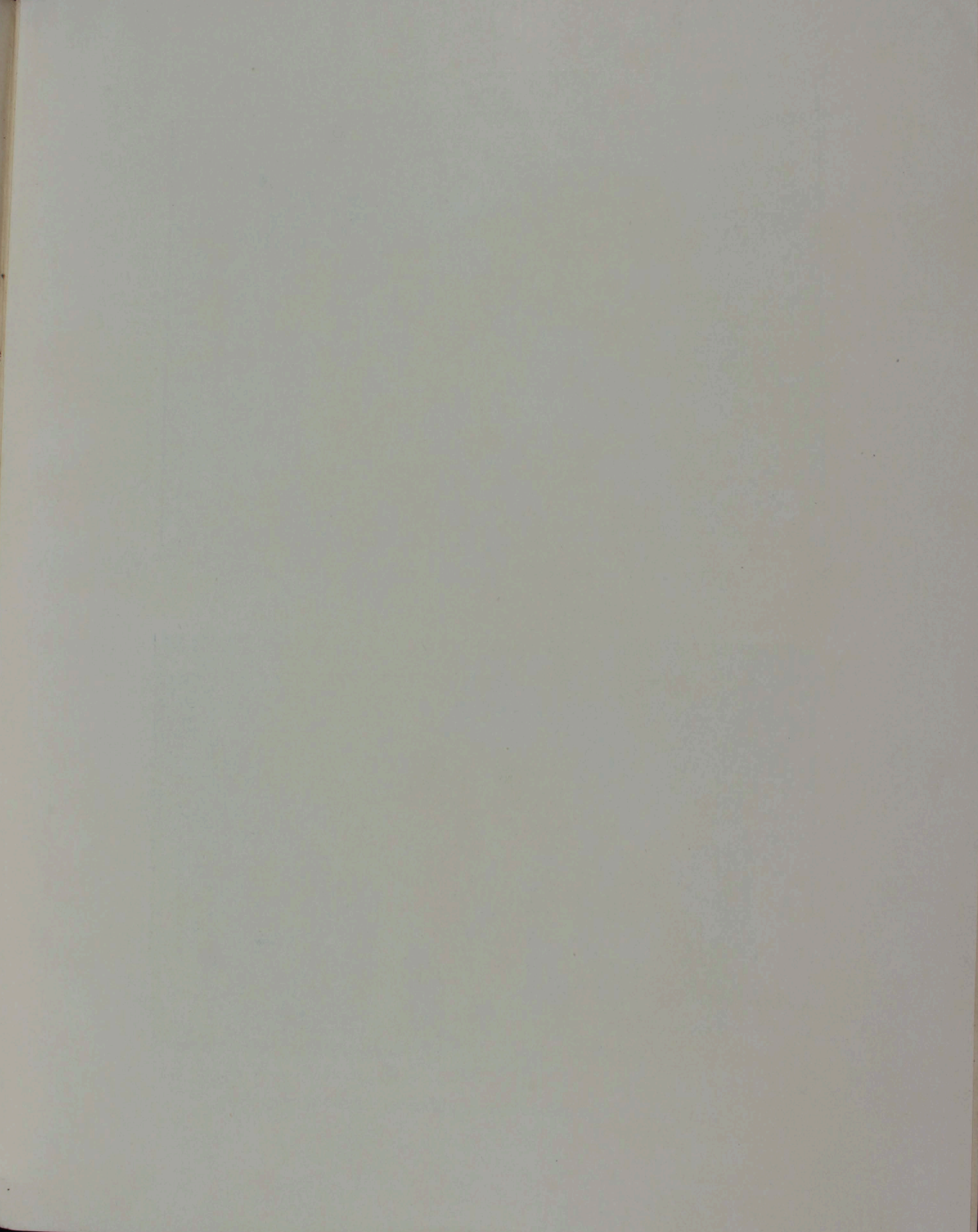
The Prince and Princess of Teck (later Earl and Countess of Athlone) were in Ceylon in 1911. The Earl, a brother of Queen Mary, had been here before, in 1901, with the Royal party.

The Crown Prince of Japan was here in 1922, and was given a fine reception at Queen's House. I left for England two days after his arrival. And, on my return, found that he had left me as a present a pair of pretty sleeve links.

In 1925, the King and Queen of the Belgians visited Ceylon and honoured me with a call at Horagalla, and had tea. Their Majesties recalled the reception given by my father to the Duc de Brabant (afterwards King of Belgium), in 1864.



A GROUP OF KANDYAN DANCERS.



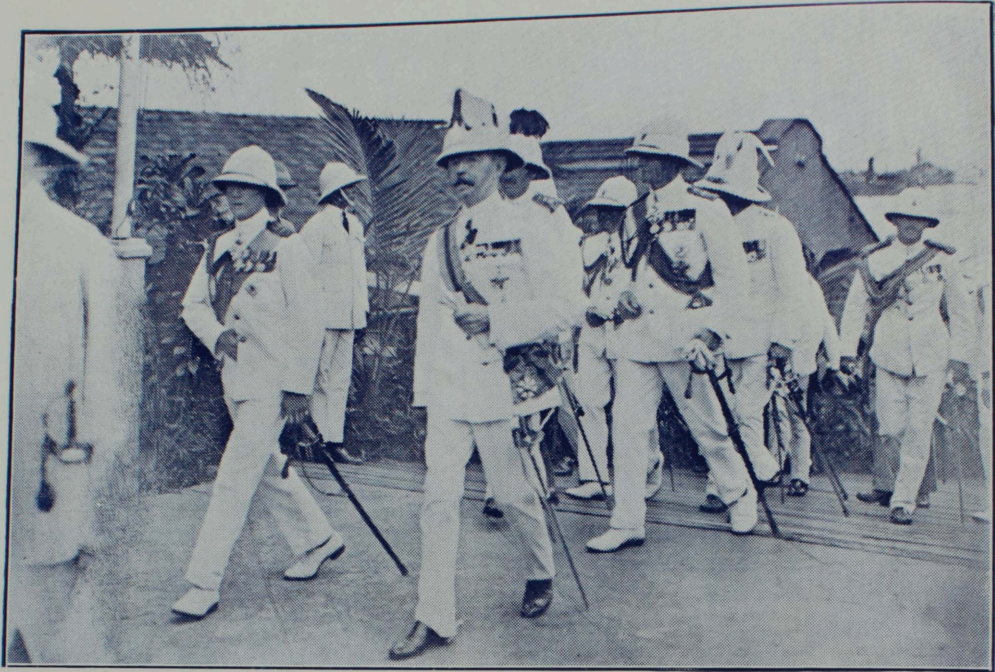


Photo by Platé.

THE PRINCE OF WALES ARRIVES IN CEYLON, MARCH, 1922.

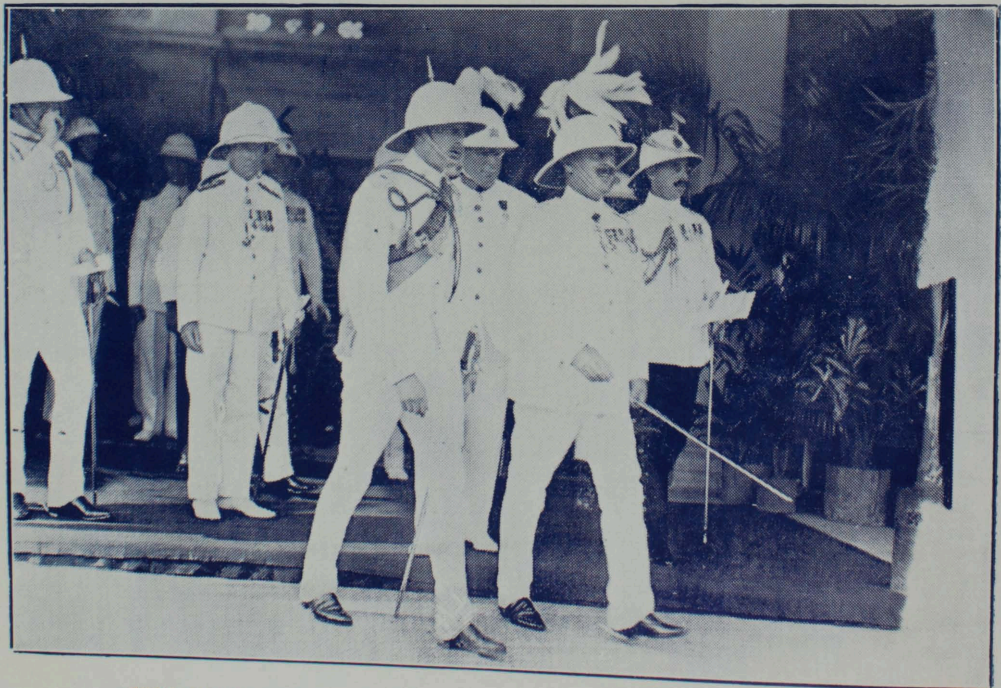


Photo by Platé.

THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER ARRIVES IN CEYLON, 1929.

Royal Visits to Ceylon

THE first of European Royal Visitors to the Island during British times was Prince Waldema of Prussia in 1844, and next the Duke of Brabant—afterwards Leopold II. of Belgium—in the sixties.

The railway to Kandy was at this time under construction and the first locomotive engine landed in Ceylon in January, 1864, was named "Leopold" as it was used to convey the Duke from Veyangoda to Ambepussa and then later to Colombo.

At Veyangoda, the Duke was entertained by Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaike's father.

The Duke of Edinburgh, second son of Queen Victoria, arrived in Ceylon in March, 1870. "He was as consummate a musician as he was a sailor." A Levee was held on the 31st, following which was a Durbar which was attended by

the Kandyan chiefs who had ceded their country to the British fifty-five years before.

The Prince, and a thousand other guests were entertained in right royal fashion by the late Mr. C. H. de Soysa of Moratuwa. His palatial mansion at Colpetty, styled in commemoration of

the Duke, "Alfred House," kept open house for a week entertaining everybody in honour of the Duke's visit.

"The plates, goblets, knives and forks provided for His Highness were of massive gold set

with rubies and studded with emeralds and pearls."

The Duke was always fond of sport and engaged himself in a shooting trip while in Ceylon. On this expedition he met with a narrow escape from death however, as he was charged by a wild elephant. The Prince's rifle failed to



H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH ATTACKED BY AN ELEPHANT.

From a drawing by J. L. K. Van Dort.

fire, and the animal was brought down by his companion when it was within twenty paces from him.

In 1875, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII.) visited Ceylon and was received with all the honour and splendour befitting a prince.

His Royal Highness laid the foundation stone of the Colombo Breakwater and allowed his name to be given to the Prince and Princess of Wales' Colleges at Moratuwa.

The Prince also accepted a Colonelcy of the C.L.I.

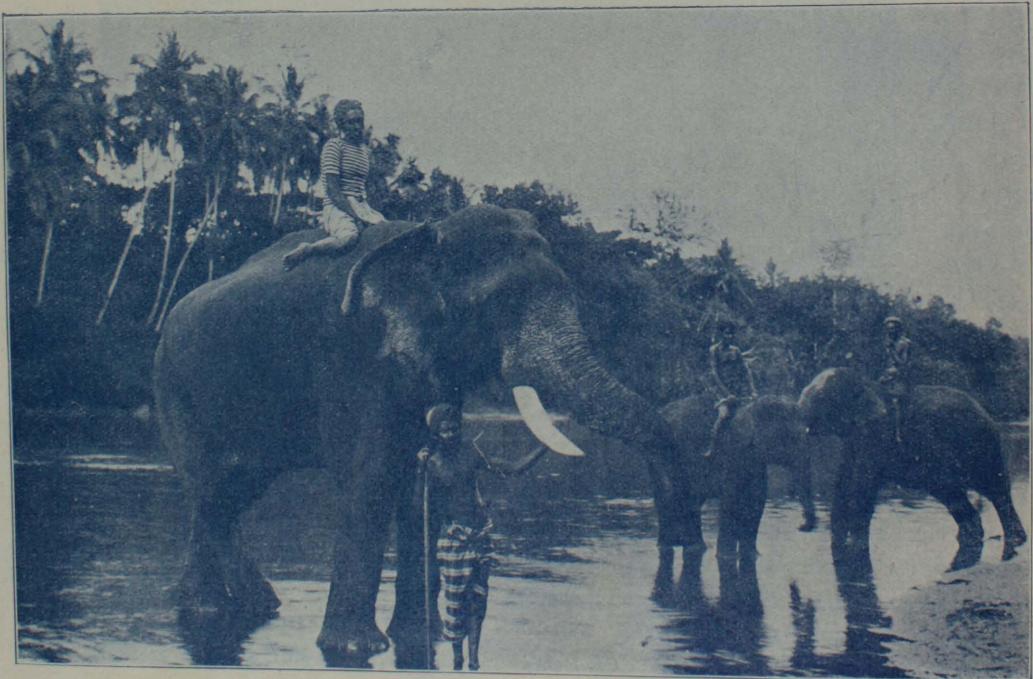
Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein laid, in 1902, the foundation

stone of Princess Louise Hospital at Moratuwa, a gift of Mr. C. H. de Soysa.

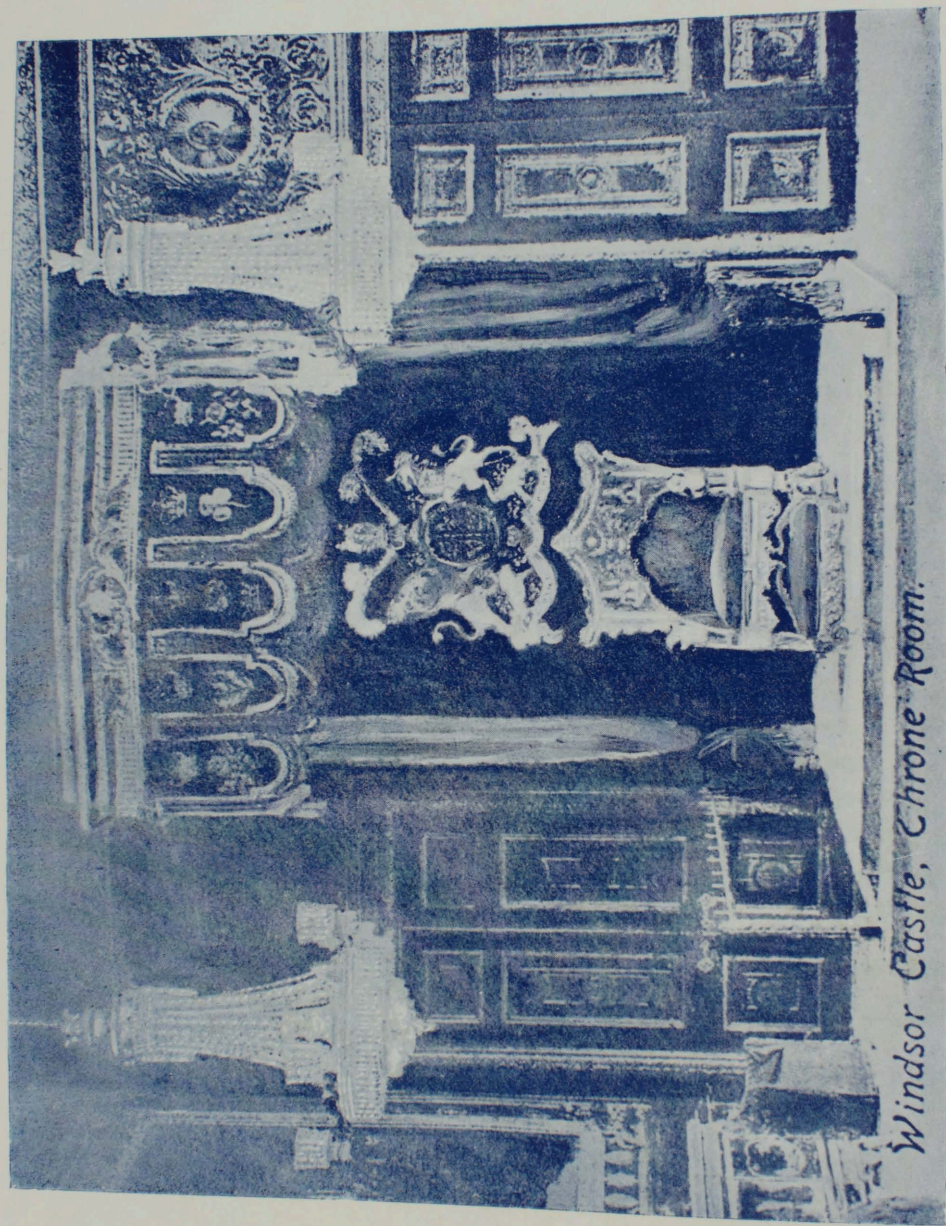
Royal visits between the years 1882 and 1925, have been vividly described by Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaike in these pages.

In 1925, Prince George visited Ceylon informally on his way to China. And in 1929, Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, visited this country on his way to Japan to invest the Emperor with the Order of the Garter.

The present occasion would be the tenth visit of British Royalty to our country.



CEYLON ELEPHANTS AND THEIR MAHOUTS.



Windsor Castle, Throne Room.

Block by Plaid

*Reproduced from a painting belonging to the late Dr. C. A. Hewavitarne,
by kind permission of the Colombo Museum Authorities.*

THE THRONE OF THE SINHALESE KINGS.

The Crown— Throne, and Foot-stool of the Kings of Ceylon

By J. A. WILL PERERA

THE CROWN

THE Crown that H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester brings as a gift from his Father to Ceylon, is not the Crown of Vijaya, neither is it Dutugemunu's, nor of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

This Crown is an eight-cornered gold hat, an *Ata-mulu-toppiya* as it is called in Sinhalese. It is the Crown of the non-Sinhalese Dynasty that ruled Ceylon from 1737 till 1815. Prior to the year 1737, the Kings of Lanka wore the Siddha Otunna or Celestial Crown, called by the European nations the "Pagoda Crown" owing to its conical shape.

In the year 1737, the last Sinhalese King, SRI WEERA PARAKRAMA NARENDRA SINHA breathed his last. His successor, Sri Vijaya Raja Sinha was a Nayak from Madura. This monarch is said to have accepted the throne only if he were allowed to discard the ancient Siddha Otunna and wear instead a coronal cap, or *Toppi Halawva*, as worn by present day Kandyan Chieftains.

The Crown, the Royal Duke presents to the Government of Ceylon, is therefore, the gold *ata-mulu-toppiya* of the first non-Sinhalese King, *viz.*:—Sri Vijaya, Raja Sinha, a scion of the Madura Ruling House, whose members were related to the Nayaks of the "forgotten Empire" of Vijayanagar.

This eight-cornered golden diadem has a saw-edge Royal ornament called *doti*

in Sinhalese. It is surmounted by the Royal *malgaha* or flower-tree. On the eight corners are blue and pink plumes, the motifs are Eastern. The gems are diamonds, pearls, emeralds, and rubies. Governor Sir Robert Brownrigg after the cession of the Kandyan Kingdom by the Chieftains, sent this Crown along with the other Regalia to England as a gift to H.R.H. the Prince Regent, who resided in Carlton House. The Crown remained at Carlton House till its demolition in 1828, when it was transferred to Windsor Castle, where it lay in the Royal Armoury till it was placed on board the cruiser "Sussex" for conveyance to Ceylon this month. Beside it lay another Crown from the neighbouring continent, *viz.*:—that of the famous Tippoo Sultan of Mysore.

THE THRONE

The Throne, like the Crown, is not the ancient throne of our warrior kings. It is only 240 years old, and is a Western Chair in the style known as Baroque of Louis Quatorze (A.D. 1690–1700). Charles Pridham, one of the early British writers on Ceylon wrote that it resembled "an old arm chair, such as is not unfrequently seen in England."

It was left to Dr. Joseph Pearson, late Director of our Museum to investigate regarding the design and origin of this regal chair. He was ably assisted by

Mr. E. Reimers, M.B.E., Government Archivist, Ceylon. Both these scholars confirmed the suspicions of Pridham that the throne is, in fact, a Western Chair bearing Eastern motifs. The latter's researches revealed that Dutch Governor Van Rhee (1692-1697) presented in the year 1693 a throne to King Vimala Dharma Suriya II. of Ceylon. Dr. Pearson argues in the pages of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon* the possibilities. It may either have been imported by the Dutch or been manufactured by them in the coastal regions occupied by them. In either case, the Eastern gold and silver work was executed by Sinhalese or Tamil, or Sinhalese and Tamil workmen in the Dutch territory. Dr. Pearson says that if the chair was turned out by Dutch or French workmen (prisoners) in the Kandyan land, the superb gold and silver decorations were the handiwork of Sinhalese (Kandyan) gold and silver smiths.

Pridham's minute description of this ornate Throne is given in his work and is known to every student of history. As this description is the best so far known, it is reproduced here:—

“The ancient throne of the Kandyan sovereigns for the last century and a half resembled an old arm chair, such as is not unfrequently seen in England. It was about five feet high in the back, three in breadth, and two in depth; the frame was of wood, entirely covered with thin gold sheeting (studded with precious stones), the exquisite taste and workmanship of which did not constitute the least of its beauties, and vied with the best modern specimens of the work of the goldsmith. The most prominent

features in this curious relic were the two golden lions or sphinxes, forming the arms of the throne or chair, of very uncouth appearance, but beautifully wrought, the heads of the animals being turned outwards in a peculiarly graceful manner. The eyes were formed of entire amethysts, each rather larger than a musket ball. Inside the back, near the top, was a large golden sun, from which the founder of the Kandyan monarchy was supposed to have derived his origin. Beneath, about the centre of the chair, and in the midst of some sunflowers was an immense amethyst, about the size of a large walnut; on either side there was a figure of a female deity, supposed to be the wife of Vishnu or Buddha, in a sitting posture, of admirable design and workmanship; the whole encompassed by a moulding formed of bunches of cut crystal, set in gold; there was a space round the back (without the moulding) studded with three large amethysts on each side, and six more at the top. The seat inside the arms, and half-way up the back was lined with red velvet. The throne behind was covered with finely-wrought silver, at the top was a large embossed half-moon of silver surmounting the stars, and below all was a bed of silver sunflowers.”

THE FOOT-STOOL

“The Foot-stool was also very handsome being ten inches in height, a foot broad, and two feet and a half long: the top was crimson silk, worked with gold; a moulding of cut crystal ran about the sides of it, beneath which, in front, were flowers studded with fine amethysts and crystals.”

The sun and moon on the throne denote the Suriya (Solar) and Chandra (Lunar) Dynasties. From the former the Sinhalese Sovereigns claimed descent, with the latter they claimed connection. The two deities on lotus thrones are Umayanganawa (Isa) wife of God Isvara, and Sriyakantawa the consort of Vishnu. These Eastern Goddesses of Beauty protected Royalty.

The presence of the acanthus foliage along with local kinds of fruit and flowers (*e.g.*, the pine-apple and the sunflower) made Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy conclude that this Throne shows signs of European influence.

Another brilliant Ceylonese, the well-known historian, the Rev. Father S. G. Perera, has discovered material that was not within the reach of Dr. Pearson, Dr. Coomaraswamy, or Mr. Reimers. He has seen in a German book published in the eighteenth century an illustration of this Throne, which that writer states was presented by the Dutch to the Sinhalese King. This confirms, without leaving the slightest doubt whatsoever, that the Throne that His Royal Highness brings to Ceylon is that presented by Dutch Governor Van Rhee to our King Vimala Dharma Suriya II. in 1693.

PRESENTED TO THE PRINCE REGENT

This Throne was also one of the presents sent by Governor Brownrigg to H.R.H. the Prince Regent after Ceylon was ceded to the British. It arrived in England on a memorable day, *viz.*:—

the 12th of October, 1815, on which day, the Imperial Eagles and Colours of the Great Napoleon, captured at Waterloo, were publicly conveyed to Whitehall Chapel. In that procession was carried the Royal Standard of Kandy—another gift from Brownrigg. This Throne, was, for over a century in the Royal Garter Throne Room of Windsor Castle. It was used by Queen Victoria, Edward VII. and the present King on solemn occasions when Knights of the Noble Order of the Garter were admitted to that highest order of British chivalry. Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm II. of Germany must have knelt before his Royal Grandmother when he was admitted to that Noble Order. Hapless King Manoel of Portugal, the last to sit on the throne of that country which wrought so much havoc in Ceylon, also knelt before the Sinhalese Throne. His ancestors must have plundered untold wealth from our Island.

Haakon of Norway who took a British Princess to be his Queen, Victor Emmanuel of Italy, and other continental monarchs bowed their knees before this golden throne of Lanka. About a decade ago, someone made the startling discovery that this Throne was not in keeping with the decorations of the Garter Throne Room. It was then removed to the top of the stairway (facing Queen Victoria's statue) in the Grand Vestibule of Windsor Castle where it was till it was put on board H.M.S. Sussex this month to be brought to Ceylon.

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How Ceylon came under British Rule

THE end of the seven years' war in 1763, saw England established as the principal European power in India. She had broken the power of the French in the East, but the Dutch were still her greatest rival in trade. The English thought it advisable, therefore, to take Ceylon—the source of a valuable Dutch trade. The loss of Ceylon would seriously cripple Dutch trade and Ceylon's position in the Indian Ocean made it a base of strategic importance in time of war.

The British, therefore, made overtures to the Kandyan king offering him the help of the British East India Company in his wars against the Dutch. Rajadhi Raja Sinha, however, declined to make any treaty except directly with the King of England and so the British left Ceylon alone till 1795. In that year, war broke out between England and Holland, and the Governor of Madras lost no time in beginning the attempt to conquer Ceylon. On the 1st August, 1795, a British force arrived at Trincomalee and compelled the garrison to surrender after a siege of three weeks. The Dutch were unfit for any resistance as they were badly supported from Holland. Jaffna surrendered in September and Colombo in February, 1796. The Dutch Governor Van Angelbeck signed an agreement by which the maritime provinces of Ceylon were ceded to the East India

Company. Thus the settlements of the Dutch East India Company passed into the possession of the British East India Company without a struggle, without loss of life, without much expense and without let or hindrance from the king of Kandy.

EARLY BRITISH RULE 1796-1798

As there was every reason to expect that as soon as the Dutch and the English made peace in Europe, Ceylon would be restored to the Dutch, no endeavour was made to set up a proper government. The East India Company was allowed to manage the affairs of Ceylon for a time, and the new conquests became part of the territory ruled by the Governor of Madras. Four military governors administered the affairs of the island from February, 1796-1798. These were Colonel James Stuart, General Welbore Ellis Doyle, Peter Bonnevaux and General de Meuron. The British occupation at the period was therefore a military regime with no courts save the court martial.

The collection of revenue was placed under Robert Andrews, a Madras civilian, who entrusted it to his assistant John Jervis, as he was engaged in negotiations with the king of Kandy. Andrews and his subordinates were new to the island and were completely ignorant of the fiscal system that obtained in this

country for centuries. They ignored the customary method of collecting revenue and directed that the "renting" system practised in Madras should be enforced in Ceylon. It is interesting to note that the word "Kachcheri" is the Hindustani for "collector's office," and was introduced by the British into Ceylon. Andrews also brought over a host of Madras farmers of revenue, who took advantage of the opportunity to plunder and oppress the people of Ceylon. The traditional headman system went by the board. The method of collecting revenue, the persons, the amount and even the manner of payment were completely altered. Naturally there was much discontent and jealousy, which led to a rising in 1797. The rising was quieted, and General de Meuron was appointed to inquire into the cause of the revolt. The investigations revealed that the abrupt changes were unwise. The Imperial Government then decided to withdraw the administration of Ceylon from the East India Company and to govern it directly from England. All trade and commercial interests were still to remain under the Company's civil service. The administration of justice, police, civil, military and judicial authority was to be vested in the Governor. Ceylon was declared a Crown Colony.

The Honourable Frederick North, afterward Earl of Guildford arrived in Ceylon in October, 1798, as the King's Governor of the maritime provinces of Ceylon.

Governor North found the country enjoying perfect tranquility after the recent disturbances. He, therefore, set about reorganizing the machinery of

government and reformed many of the abuses of the Madras system.

KANDYAN AFFAIRS—1798

On the death of Rajadhi Raja Sinha in 1798, his first Adigar, Pilamma Talawwa put a Malabar youth named Kannesami on the throne. He had no right to the throne, but the Adigar only intended to use him as a tool to achieve his end—the throne of Kandy. The lawful heir to the throne, Muttusami fled to the British for protection. But the English government decided not to intervene, but wait for further developments. The Adigar was relieved at this and sought the support of the British for himself. He asked North for an interview at Sitavaka and there invited the English to come and take possession of the Kandyan kingdom and uphold him on the throne, in return for liberal trade concessions. North seems to have agreed to these treacherous proposals, but he made it a condition that the king's life should be spared.

The Adigar was anxious to take a British force to Kandy on any terms and it was arranged that General Macdowall should proceed on an embassy to the king, ostensibly to congratulate him on his accession, but in reality to overawe the king and carry out Pilamma Talawwa's designs. But the king grew suspicious at the approach of so large an army and refused to allow the general to enter Kandy except with a few men—too few for the success of the plan. No treaty was arranged and the general returned. In the meantime by the Peace of Amiens, 1802, the maritime provinces

were completely transferred from the East India Company and placed under the control of the Crown.

Having failed in his plot, the Adigar decided to force a war with the English. If there was war, he thought, the king could be put to death and his own authority established. He seized the property of some Moor traders who were British subjects. North demanded compensation, which was refused. War was then declared in 1803.

The British troops marched to Kandy in two divisions and found the place abandoned by its inhabitants, the king and Pilamma Talawwa having fled to Hanguranketa. The British thereupon declared Muttusami king and compelled him to keep a strong British force in Kandy. It did not suit Pilamma Talawwa at all that Muttusami was appointed king. And in his disappointment, he determined to revenge himself on the king. He pretended friendship with the British and offered to help them to capture the king. But the detachments sent to Hanguranketa according to his directions met with serious opposition and the king was not at Hanguranketa. The Adigar pressed the troops to pursue him, but Colonel Bailie, who was suspicious of the good faith of the Adigar returned to Kandy. The main body of troops came back to Colombo and the garrison left in Kandy found themselves placed in a position of great danger. On all sides the Kandyans were gathering together in arms and on the 24th June, 1803, the British were attacked. Major Davie, who was in command, was forced to surrender. Terms were then agreed upon with the Adigar. Muttusami and

the British troops were to leave Kandy unarmed. But they were taken unawares on the march and Muttusami and the soldiers were cruelly massacred. The Kandyan troops now poured down on the Low-country in the expectation of driving away the English.

The king arrived in person to lead the attack on Colombo, but was repulsed and fled in disorder.

In 1804, the English invaded Kandy again, Captain Jhonston marched his little force to Kandy. The king and the people fled before it and he returned to Trincomalee with the loss of only 26 men. This daring feat left a deep impression on the minds of the Kandyans.

From this time till 1815, there was no regular war between the Kandyans and the English as neither party felt strong enough to invade the others territory. The period 1804-1815, was one of great confusion and horror in the Kandyan kingdom. The king had entered upon a course of tyranny and misrule. The king and the chiefs were engaged in a struggle for supremacy. The king tried to curb the growing power of the chiefs and the chiefs attempted to work the destruction of the king. The people harassed by the chiefs put the blame on the king and wished the English would come and take their lands. The king harassed by the complaints of the people treated the chiefs with severity which increased their hatred of the king. Thus the chiefs accused by the people and punished by the king turned to the English and carried on an intriguing correspondence with the agent of revenue, John D'oyly, who fanned the flame of discontent in order to induce the Sinha-

lese kingdom to accept the terms of the English.

The king was extremely jealous of the popularity of Pilamma Talawwa and when the Adigar proposed a marriage between his son and a grand-daughter of Kirti Siri, the King deprived him of all his high offices. Pilamma Talawwa then plotted to assassinate the king, but the plot failed and Pilamma Talawwa was beheaded in 1811. Ehelapola, the nephew of Pilamma Talawwa succeeded to the office of first Adigar. He was suspected of disloyalty from the first, but the king showed him no ill will.

In his dissavony of Sabaragamuwa, Ehelapola was very popular and this served only to increase the king's jealousy and fear. He was, therefore, summoned to appear before the king at Kandy to answer certain charges, but the order was not obeyed. The king in anger deprived him of office and lands and imprisoned his family. Molligoda was despatched against the rebel. In May, 1814, Ehelapola, too weak to resist, fled to Colombo and sought the protection of the English. The king's rage, when he learnt this, was terrible and he vented his wrath on those he suspected of friendship with the fugitive. His wife and children were most cruelly tortured and put to death. Several Kandyan chiefs tired of the king's misrule followed Ehelapola's example and fled to Colombo and were received with sympathy and promises of help. But it was not thought prudent to act merely at the request of a rebellious minister. Nothing could be done against Sri Vickrama Raja Sinha until the British were quite certain that the people were determined to get rid of their tyrant.

The Kandyan chiefs reported that the king had begun preparations for war. Ehelapola procured the necessary provocation following Pilamma Talawwa's precedent of 1803.

Ten British subjects, trading in cloth in the Kandyan country were barbarously treated by Sri Vickrama Raja Sinha who charged them with being spies. On hearing this the governor decided to declare war against the Kandyan king. Another reason for fighting was that the Kandyans had crossed the river of Sitavaka, the limit of the Kandyan country and plundered the inhabitants who were British subjects. On 10th January, 1815, Sir Robert Brownrigg issued a proclamation stating that the war was not a war against the Kandyan nation, but against the tyrant who oppressed them. The Kandyan people were promised full protection of person and property, of their religion which would be held sacred, and of their chiefs, whose accustomed ranks and dignities he would preserve, and of their ancient laws and institutions which would be maintained. The British troops entered Kandy in triumph on the 14th. Chief after chief revolted from the king and joined the British. Few would fight on the king's behalf and at length he fled to Dumbara with a few attendants. Here he was captured and brought to Kandy, where he was given all the respect due to his rank.

The object of the expedition having been accomplished, there now remained the important task of settling the future government of the kingdom. A convention was held in the Audience Hall presided over by Sir Robert Brownrigg.

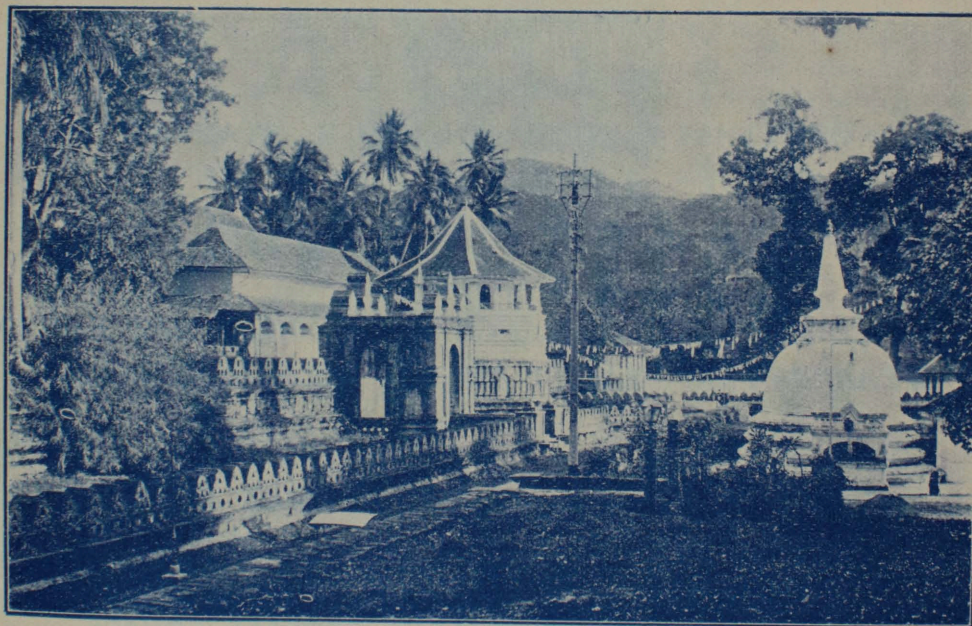
An act of settlement prepared by Sir John D'oyly was read both in English and in Sinhalese and agreed to by all present. It consisted of 12 clauses, the most important of which were:—

(1) Sri Vickrama Raja Sinha has forfeited all claim to the throne and is declared deposed, and the claims of his dynasty abolished and extinguished.

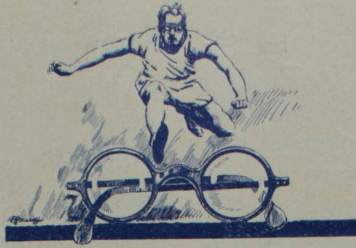
(2) The religion of the Buddha is declared inviolable, its rites, ministers and places of worship to be maintained and protected.

(3) All civil and criminal justice over Kandyans to be administered according to established forms and through the ordinary authorities, the government reserving to itself the inherent right of interposition when necessary.

The British flag was then hoisted and the sovereign rights of the last politically independent remnant of the Sinhalese people were irrevocably surrendered to the British. "E. F."



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Progress of Central Government

THE British occupation of Ceylon dates from the year 1796, when "John Gerard Van Angelbeek, Counsellor of India, Governor and Director of the Dutch Possessions in the Island of Ceylon, offered to deliver up to Colonel Steuart and Captain Gardner, commanding the English troops, the fortress of Colombo. This capitulation included the town of Galle, the Fort of Kalutara and all the dependencies, domains and sovereign rights of the Hon. Dutch East India Company."

The maritime provinces thus became a British possession by right of conquest. At first these provinces were administered from Madras by the British East India Company through a Military Governor.

The revenue officers who had been sent from Madras adopted exacting methods which resulted in the administration being considered far from successful.

In 1797, the climax was reached when an insurrection broke out in several parts of the country. The new fiscal system which was contrary to the ancient custom of the country was by no means popular.

A committee appointed by Lord Hobart, which was already investigating with the causes of the growing discontent, immediately resolved that it was the

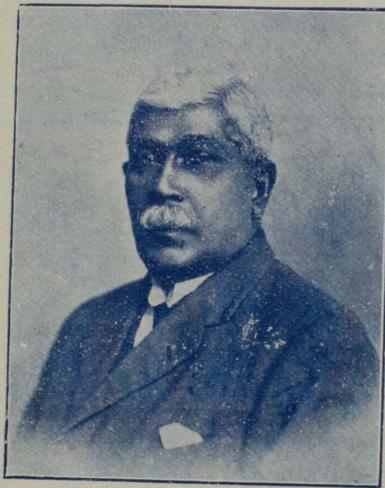
fiscal system that possibly contributed to the disturbances. And recommended the withdrawal of Madras Dubashes and the appointment of Sinhalese of good birth as Magistrates.

The Island was then converted into a king's colony and the Hon. Frederick North afterwards Earl of Guilford was appointed as the first Governor.

Governor North set about reorganizing the government and effected reforms in all possible spheres. He instituted the medical department, a postal department, a survey department and an education department.

In 1815, the Kandyan people, dissatisfied with their king, invited the British who already held the maritime provinces to take over the govern-

ment of the Kandyan kingdom. The chiefs and people of the provinces "*fully and freely* surrendered the same and submitted themselves to His Majesty's Government." The British on the other hand undertook to preserve the rights, privileges and powers of the respective offices of the chief and minor headmen and guaranteed to all classes of people, the safety of their persons and property with their civil rights and immunities, according to the laws, institutions and customs established and in force amongst them. Buddhism was declared inviolable,



SIR JAMES PEIRIS.

bodily torture and mutilation and the like cruelties and oppressions of the Sinhalese kings were prohibited and abolished.

The convention of 1815, therefore, formally brought about what had already occurred in fact—namely, the deposition of the Kandyan king.

In 1833, Sir Robert Horton, then Governor was instrumental in the creation of a Deliberative Council to assist the Governor in legislation, the opening of a Supreme Court and the proclamation of a new Charter of Justice.

The Legislative Council was composed of sixteen members appointed for life amongst whom were six unofficials appointed by the Governor to represent the Sinhalese, Tamil, Europeans, Burghers, Mercantile and Planting communities.

There was much protest against the official majority, and as a matter of fact, when the council met on the 22nd May, 1834, the unofficial members had not been appointed by the Governor.

In 1845, the number of nominated members was raised to ten.

A conflict between the unofficials and the government over the question of "military contributions" in 1863, led to the resignation of the unofficials. Dummy councillors were sent in, and a powerful organization called the Ceylon League was inaugurated to fight for reform.

In 1889, the number of unofficial members was increased from six to eight, to represent the Kandyan, the Low-country Sinhalese, the Muslims, the Tamils, the Burghers, the European Planters, Merchants and general European community for a period of five years. The Legislative Council, therefore, was

composed of eight unofficials, six officials of the Executive Council, and three other officials with the Governor as President.

In 1908, Sir James (then Mr.) Peiris who was in England submitted a memorandum to the Secretary of State, urging the reform of the Legislative Council and advocating the abolition of communal representation and the necessity for the introduction of an elective principle. Appeals and memorials praying for the abolition of communal seats and in favour of the territorial principle instead, followed from many quarters.

On November 21st, 1910, a new proclamation was issued whereby the number of unofficials was raised to eleven and the official number to ten.

The Ceylon Reform League and the Ceylon National Congress pressed for a council of which at least four-fifths would be elected territorially and demanded the free control of the Budget.

The Order-in-Council of 1920 which followed, provided for twenty-three unofficial members of whom eleven were to be elected territorially and eight to represent the Burghers, Europeans, Chambers of Commerce, Low-country Products Association, the Kandyan and the Indians. The officials numbered only fourteen. But the Ceylonese were not even then satisfied. Their demand for reforms now included that of an elected Speaker.

The Order-in-Council of 19th December, 1923, provided for thirty-seven unofficial members, three of whom were officials nominated by the Governor and twelve others to sit in their official capacity. Of the thirty-seven, eleven were to be elected communally and the rest terri-

torially. But the urge for reforms was not even then quelled.

In 1927, on the recommendation of Sir Hugh Clifford a Commission was appointed with Lord Donoughmore as Chairman to consider any proposals for the revision of the constitution. The Commission after hearing a good deal of evidence in Ceylon, placed before them by various and varied interests, finally submitted their report in 1928. Their recommendations were directed "to train Ceylonese to assume responsibility in the administration of the island."

The present State Council which came into being in 1931 on the line suggested by this Commission is constituted of fifty elected members and seven nominated members. The Franchise is extended to all men and women over the age of twenty-one. The government is divided into ten groups, three of which are directly under the Chief Secretary, the Legal Secretary and the Financial Secretary—all appointed by the Crown and seven other groups under Ministers with portfolios elected by the State Council itself.

The Ministers go under the designation of Minister for Home Affairs, for Agriculture and Lands, for Local Administration, for Health, for Labour, Industry and Commerce, for Education, for Communications and Works.

The Board of Ministers fulfil the works of the former Executive Council. The members of the State Council are divided into seven committees each with its particular Minister as Chairman.

Each member is paid an allowance of 500 rupees per mensem, while each

Minister receives 1,500 rupees. The salary attached to the seat of Speaker is 1,500 rupees and 1,000 rupees to the Deputy Speaker.

Curiously enough, no sooner than the constitution had been granted, it was branded as being unworkable. For three years Jaffna raised an ineffective "boycott."

But what has prevented its being workable is not the constitution itself but, the character of the members themselves.

The demand for reforms—for full Responsible Government, for Self-Government and Dominion Status—is even now heard in some quarters. But one cannot help wondering how a country which finds itself unable to place any degree of confidence in the Members of the State Council, elected on such a wide Franchise, and as presently constituted, could go any further and ask for reforms that would involve wider powers.

Nor can it be said that the next Council will see better men and better ideals. The cankers of caste and religion have eaten too deeply into the body politic. The selfishness of candidates has spelt the ruin of the country.

"Selfishness is the most powerful impulse in the State Council," said a leading Ceylonese newspaper, "Private members are too utterly selfish to make personal sacrifices . . . They are agreeable to starve the essential services; but, the slightest suggestion to touch their allowances sends up their hands in holy horror."

The destinies of a country cannot be entrusted to a set of people who lack the spirit of service.

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In this Presidency of ancient Temples, besides other costly edifices, one often finds with dismay, that a little crack has set in the walls, the roofs, pillars, domes, turrets, minarets, or gopurams—and a tiny plant springing up which insensibly grows in the crack, the structure weakening or collapsing in time.

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Agricultural Industries

IF village paddy cultivation and the coconut industry be taken out of consideration, the cultivation of commercial crops in Ceylon has been mainly the product of European enterprise. To this the varied climatic conditions have helped in no small measure. Though Ceylon is only 25,300 square miles in extent, the altitude of the country rises from sea level to 7,000ft. and the temperature varies from a 100 degrees Fahrenheit to almost freezing point.

It was the Dutch who first attempted the cultivation of coffee in the Low-country and their example was followed by the British. But, it was after a roadway between Colombo and Kandy had been opened by Sir Edward Barnes, that any serious effort was made towards development.

In 1845, after hardly ten years, almost 200,000 cwt. were exported and coffee "reigned" from then until 1870, when

the leaf disease (a fungus *Hemelia Vastatrix*) began to damage the crops seriously.

Between 1856-1870, the crops had increased to a 1,000,000 cwt. valued at over £4,000,000 and not less than 175,000 acres were under European management and control.



Photo by Platé

A TEA ESTATE.

Block by Survey Dept.

"The coffee mania was at its highest in 1845. The Governor, the public officials, the military, the Judges, the English clergy and half the members of the Civil Service became coffee planters."

Those

were the days . . .!!

When mail coaches ran from Colombo to Kandy . . . Roads multiplied rapidly . . . Colombo harbour gained preference to far-away Galle . . . A Bank was established and so was a Chamber of Commerce.

Those were the days . . .!!

When the Ceylonese followed quick upon the heels of the Europeans in their quest after fortune and between a quarter

to a half of the exports was "native coffee."

Although the cultivation was seriously impeded by the coffee pest, the market for the product rose by almost 50 per cent. But the "crash" really came when Brazil unimpeded by any destructive visitation, poured out her produce into the markets of the world. This spelt the ruin of numerous planters—both European and Ceylonese, but other avenues soon opened to the more enterprising.

Cocoa came to the rescue of coffee. The Dumbara Valley and Matale districts found it a favourable home. Whereas, in

1877, there were only 500 acres, today there are over 34,000 under cultivation, and the export of beans has risen from 122 cwt. to 82,096 cwt. during the same period. But here again competition by other countries, chiefly, the West Indies and Gold Coast, has seriously interfered with the Ceylon product in world markets.

Tea-drinkers today are perhaps unaware of the fact that during the seven-

teenth century a pound of Chinese tea was sold for as much as five pounds or even ten pounds sterling.

In Ceylon the cultivation of tea began with almost two hundred plants about the middle of the last century. And whereas, in 1867, there were only ten acres of tea in this country, by 1875, there were a thousand, and this figure rose in twenty years to three hundred thousand acres.

Today there are over four hundred and fifty thousand acres of tea under cultivation taken up by over a thousand and two hundred estates.

The plant grows in varying elevations between 1,500 and

6,000 feet and the product is designated as being either mid-country or hill-country—the latter of course, finding a better market.

Rubber found growing wild in the Amazon Valley, was quickly seen to be not without commercial value. Seeds were procured and planted in the Kew Gardens in London. Of the two thousand seven hundred seedlings raised no less than two thousand were sent to



Photo by P1116.

TAPPING RUBBER.

Block by Survey Dept.

Ceylon in 1876, and planted in Henerat-goda Botanical Gardens.

As an industry it first began to commence its romantic career in the Kalutara district, and by 1904, nearly two thousand acres were under crop, rising in 1933, to almost 540,000.

Whereas, tea prefers an elevation over 1,500 feet, rubber thrives well below 2,000 feet.

In 1904, the export was 7,000 lbs. at a price of 5s. 8d. per lb. In 1910, it rose so high as 12s. 10d. per lb. and the nadir was reached in 1933 with 7 cents per lb.

In 1902, only nine and a half tons were exported, in 1929, the export figure reached 80,476 tons.

The coconut is the staple agricultural industry of Ceylon. And it is hoped that the present gloom will not brood too long.

Though it is presumed that the home of the palm is the Eastern Archipelago, it thrives luxuriantly on the South and West Coast of Ceylon, and has found its way to the North and East.

It is a tree with a thousand and one uses, and if only a serious effort is made to found a Coconut Home in Colombo, whither village enterprise may bring its products of labour and fancy, and wherefrom they may be exported to foreign countries, there is no reason to believe that the Ceylonese craftsmen's delicate art—conjuring with the shell, the husk, the flower of the coconut—will fail to attract a market.

With regard to the only industry which is really Ceylonese, any effort to find markets other than the already established—and now dwindling—ones is scarcely made by the Ceylonese themselves. Exhibitions are of no avail unless a Central Home and Buying Agency can be established which will help in some measure the poor man and his family.

Although for the first fifty years of

British rule in Ceylon, little effort was made towards helping Paddy cultivation, it made ample amends thereafter by paying the keenest attention to the neglected state of irrigation.

Sir Henry Ward, then governor, having toured the country in 1855, set his mind seriously on resurrecting an almost lost agricultural industry. Ceylon once "The Granary of the East," found her wonderful system of irrigation by tanks, the efforts of engineering genius during the reign of the Sinhalese kings, in a pitiful state. The tanks were overgrown with jungle, massive trees found their roots gnawing ruthlessly at the age-worn bunds.

But the sympathy of Sir Edward Ward was awakened. And between 1855 and 1878, irrigation works were carried on in the Southern and Eastern Provinces. Sir Hercules Robinson passed his famous paddy cultivation ordinances, and moreover, between 1872-1883, over three million rupees were allocated for the purpose of irrigation.

Sir Arthur Gordon was more enthusiastic still. He caused forty-two tanks and one hundred and sixty-four sluices to be repaired. He constituted Irrigation Boards, with himself as President, in each province.

Sir Joseph West Ridgeway allocated five million rupees more on the same purpose.

The tanks are so large, some of them such as Minneriya and Kalawewa being over four thousand acres, that the progress made within this short space of time is simply remarkable. And even today the vehement advocacy of the Minister for Agriculture and Lands in the cause of the country's once greatest treasure does not fail to find the sincerest sympathy both from the officials and from every community in the island.

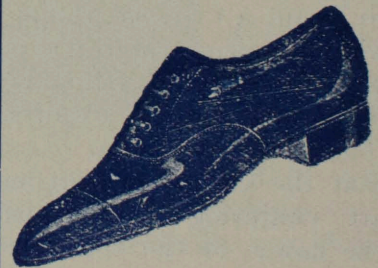
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Commerce Under British Rule

By N. JAYAWARDENE, B.Sc. (Econ.), Lond.

IF Commerce is an index to the economic progress of a country, the era of British rule in Ceylon must be reckoned as a period of unparalleled development and prosperity. So far-reaching and complete have been the changes wrought in the economic fabric of the nation within this period that practically little trace is now left of the conditions preceding the era of British rule. During the last one hundred and twenty years—if we date the British Era in Ceylon to begin from 1815, when for the first time in Sinhalese history, the entire country was brought under the complete sway of a foreign monarch—the commerce of the country in so far as we can ascertain it from the recorded statistics of external trade has increased nearly a two-hundredfold. Even a summary description of a trade of such dimensions must necessarily occupy several pages. Consideration of space prohibit us from such a task and the present survey will be confined to the salient features.

The commerce of Ceylon, as we know it today, is a product of British enterprise, and its history is the story of British pluck, endurance and courage, an outstanding testimony to British Industry. National commerce has been aptly compared to a national river on which argosies laden with rich cargoes sail up and down, and whose waters carried far and wide by branches and tributaries irrigate and enrich the country.

We see this stream of national commerce choked and stagnant in the early teens of British rule. It is so small that it can hardly be described as a stream. On it we notice two convoys sailing in either direction. One outwards emerging from inland—the convoys have not travelled far as the stream does not reach beyond the plains below the foothills—carries the spicy cinnamon for which this land has been famed from time immemorial. A few craft in this convoy have on board other merchandise like arrack and coconut, but in number they are so insignificant that they lose their identity amidst the cinnamon laden craft. The inward convoy, however, carries a more miscellaneous cargo. Clothing for the people, food and drink for their sustenance, and tools to assist them in their work, form the bulk of the wares.

In the thirties the stream becomes somewhat larger, the value of the total trade now having increased from less than Rs. 5 million to over Rs. 7 million in the space of a decade. The inward argosies no longer bring with them merchandise exclusively; in their wake now follows a yellow stream of metal, which though a mere pool now, is destined to attain a considerable size in the near future. This inward flow of bullion, which in fact the yellow stream represents, ushers us into the era of capital development in Ceylon. This movement

now receiving a temporary check from the burst of a speculative bubble or from the ravages of a blight, but again proceeding apace with renewed vigour, contain the true story of British enterprise in this country.

The business acumen of the shrewd British Colonist was not slow to discern the prospects of coffee in Ceylon—an opportunity disregarded by their Dutch predecessors who pinned their faith on cinnamon. Once success was assured, there was a rush to open out coffee. Speculation in land soon became rife and the coffee mania—for such indeed it proved to be—reached its climax in the late forties. In the meanwhile, fed by new rivulets flowing fresh from the foothills, the flow of commerce had swollen into a rapid stream. More cargoes were borne on her waters and amounted to as much as Rs. 17 million in value. The outward convoys—our exports—no longer contained cinnamon mainly. They included coffee as well. While the inward stream still continued to bring a miscellaneous cargo of goods, foodstuffs now became a feature in them.

The next three decades can be described as a flood-tide in the Island's commerce. Imports and exports alike increased rapidly and the running stream of commerce soon became a gushing river. Her tributaries extended far into the country, but large tracts still remained untouched and unirrigated. Numerous busy craft plied up and down the river heavily laden with merchandise, the value of which advanced by leaps and bounds, and before the close of the

seventies was reckoned at nearly Rs. 118 million. It was, indeed, a remarkable progress. Within the space of a single generation from 1850 to 1877, our national commerce had multiplied eightfold. By now, coffee had become the main branch of commerce in the country, displacing cinnamon and it contributed over 80 per cent. to the outward flow of commerce whose value was then calculated at Rs. 63 million.

During the period, foodstuffs assumed an increasing importance in our import supplies, with the ingress of Indian coolies who swarmed in large numbers to supplement, and sometimes to supplant, local labour in the coffee estates. The Indian labourer brought with him Indian tastes, habits and fashions; he not only provided a natural market for Indian goods, particularly articles of food, but was a nucleus for the operations of the enterprising Indian merchants, who, once he obtained a foot-hold in local commerce, extended his trading activities to embrace the entire national food supply. Thus, as years passed by, the country was compelled to rely more and more on her import trade for her necessaries of food.

The coffee blight in the eighties caused a severe set-back contracting sharply. The value up to what it was in the sixties—a mere Rs. 75 million. Coffee had hitherto been the main arterial stream of the commerce of the nation. Just before the blight in 1880, it contributed over Rs. 33 million to our national commerce, but so disastrous were the ravages of the blight that before the bud of that decade, its share had shrunk to the inconsiderable sum of Rs. 5 million.

It was during this time of gloom and anxiety that British enterprise asserted itself. Nothing undaunted, with starvation and utter ruin staring in their faces, the Colonist feverishly rushed to seek alternative products in place of coffee. They tried cinchona and failed and gave increasing attention to the cultivation of cacao, cardamoms, coconut and cinnamon once again.

With the failure of cinchona they next tried tea and succeeded. The rush to tea soon surpassed the rush to coffee. The nineties was the era of tea as much as the sixties was the era of coffee. The commerce of the country once again began to grow both in volume and value as well as in ranges and character. Its channels irrigated large tracts of the country, penetrating bleak hills and high mountains untrodden by human feet, or miasmal valleys and ravaged by pestilential malaria, and converted whatever it touched into blossoming tea gardens which are at once the pride of Ceylon and the glorious heritage of British capital and enterprise. Innumerable tributaries, some mere rivulets but others powerful streams, had swollen our national commerce into a torrential river which formed the pathway to large fleets of heavily-laden shipping from all quarters of the globe. On the eve of the present century, the rising trade of prosperity brought the value of our commerce to over Rs. 200 million and before the end of the first decade it exceeded the 320 million mark. It was indeed a period of astonishing prosperity.

The national highway of commerce—for such it has now become—was no

longer fed by one main industry. It had three principal arteries—tea, rubber and coconut, each rapidly increasing in strength and size; these in turn are supplemented by other streamers and feeders. Their waters irrigated extensive areas of the country, reaching both hill and dale, and valley and plain, enriching the wealth of the entire countryside, converting here the bare slopes of a craggy hill into fertile estates of tea and rubber, or replacing there a valley of forests with stately plantations of the coconut palm. In this commercial highway sailed ships belonging to every national flag. Long convoys of shipping carried our produce to all parts of the world and brought in exchange food, clothing, machinery and other essentials required by an expanding population. Our exports schedule, though not stationery, was yet not extensive, but the range of our imports had increased enormously and included almost every article of necessity and luxury.

Trade has since increased enormously swelling the banks of our national highway, and attaining records hitherto considered impossible. The three main arteries between them account for over 90 per cent. of the outward flow of commerce, tea alone being responsible for two-thirds and rubber and coconut for another one-fourth. In the inward flow, food-stuffs continue to retain the pride of place, and amount to as much as one-third of the foreign supplies.

Our national commerce reached the highwater mark in the twenties. High prices in tea, rubber and coconut caused our arterial channels to swell up to record

levels, and spread the countryside with the flood of prosperity. The peak was reached in 1926, when the total trade of the Island reached the remarkable sum of Rs. 950 million.

Since then overproduction has depressed the prices of major products; the main arteries, now clogged with surplus output, impede the flow of commerce and its value thus shrunk considerably.

Seeing from this distant past fertile hills and rich valleys covered with extensive plantations of tea and rubber, we

envy that they no longer belong to the sons of the soil, and often express a pang of regret that we have been deprived of our legitimate birthright. But have we been? Let the honest enquirer ask himself.

Would these lands be what they are if not for British enterprise and industry? The pioneers took the risks and faced the hardships; the fertile fields are their reward. No jeremiads can return them again to us; we must follow the pioneers in their wake.



A KATAMARAN—NATIVE FISHING VESSEL

Shipping and Railways

FROM 1589 B.C., when King Kuloththota Maha Jayah visited Ceylon and founded the natural harbour at Trincomalee, to 1934 A.D., when Colombo appears on the map as one of the premier harbours of the world, is indeed a far cry.

So long ago as 543 B.C., some fragile boats tossed about in the ocean brought a reckless Indian Prince Vijaya and his retinue of lawless warriors to the shores of Ceylon. And from

them has sprung the Sinhalese nation. Later still in history, the Tamils invaded Ceylon about the second century B.C., and disembarked from their dhows at Kalutara.

By the seventh century A.D., the Arabs in their sailing boats set foot in Ceylon (Taprobane) and settled in the villages near Batticaloa. And in the twelfth century, navigation had reached a standard whereby it was possible for a

Sinhalese king, Parakrama Bahu, to invade South India with a full army.

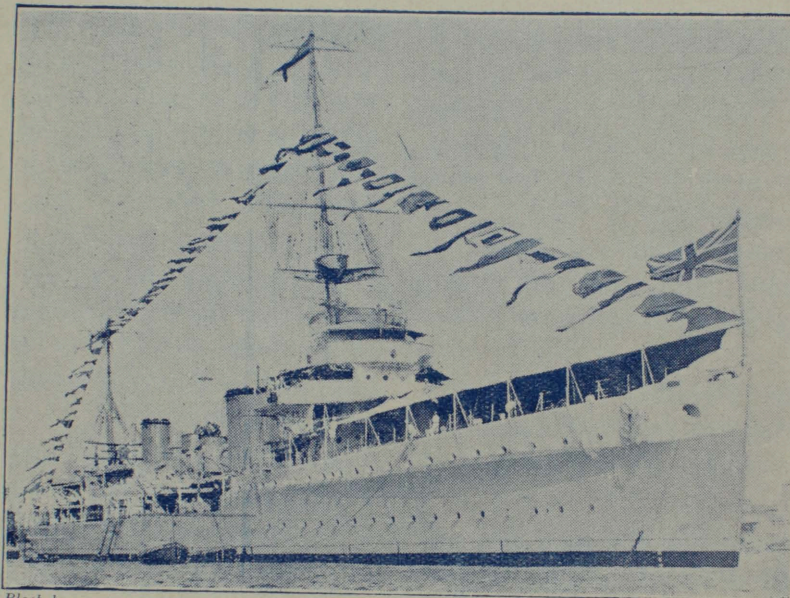
Thereafter the Greeks and Romans, Persians, Chinese, Arabs and Indians found their way to Lanka and carried away her rich spices—gems, pearls and shells, carvings in ivory and metal,

sandalwood and drugs.

But the first European nation that built a fortress at Colombo was the Portuguese, in 1505. At this time the trade of the country was main-

ly in the hands of the Moors. And the Portuguese having made overtures to the Sinhalese king then at Cotta (near Colombo) and agreed to stand against the exploitation of the Moors, were allowed to build a settlement.

The foremost harbour of the island at this time, however, was Galle. Its splendid natural harbour offered absolute security to the sailing vessels. But the Portuguese mariners were vandals,



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H. M. S. ENTERPRISE.

Times of Ceylon.

and ruthlessly the Catholic occidentals plundered and pillaged the rich temples along the Southern Sea Coast.

The Dutch in 1658, wrested Galle from the Portuguese and soon built those magnificent fortresses which were at the time quite impregnable. These fortresses are still to be seen at places such as Galle, Matara, Jaffna and Trincomalee, and are lasting monuments to the enterprise of the Dutch East Indies Company.

The first steamship to visit India *via* the Cape of Good Hope was the *Enterprise*, in 1825. But there is no authentic record to say that it touched at Colombo or Galle. There is a record, however, to say that the P. & O. "*Alva*" was lost in the Eastern waters, in 1858.

Since this time, Mercantile and Marine shipping has progressed with rapid strides.

It was the foresight of a Master Attendant—Captain James Donnan, that led to the establishment of a harbour at Colombo.

"About May, when the monsoon sets in on the Malabar Coast, and extends its ravages to the West Coast of Ceylon," wrote Percival in his *Account of Ceylon*, in 1803, "the roads of Colombo offer no protection. Vessels then find shelter in the more secure portions of Trincomalee and Point de Galle and seldom venture these roads for the next eight months. Colombo is thus cut off from any intercourse by sea with the rest of the island for two-thirds of the year."

With the increase of steamships calling at the harbours of Ceylon, and with the necessary improvements that were essen-

tial to the rocky-bedded Galle harbour for the mooring of large vessels, the question naturally arose as to whether it was more expedient to effect the improvements to the Galle harbour or to build another on the West Coast of Ceylon.

The Planters' Association and the Chamber of Commerce strongly advocated the selection of Colombo. Nor were they selfish in their demands. Colombo was connected by rails and roads to the planting districts and more than four-fifths of commerce had direct dealings with the metropolis. Moreover, the importance of Galle was purely imperial, and Colombo was thirty miles closer to Aden than Galle.

Sir Hercules Robinson, the then Governor was all in favour of Galle and feared that the establishment of a harbour at Colombo would cost millions. But Captain Donnan was strong in his advocacy of Colombo.

Mr. Townsend, Superintendent of the Plymouth Breakwater, who had been called upon to give assistance, readily approved of Colombo in preference to Galle. And in 1874, Sir John Coode was appointed consulting engineer, and the work begun.

The visit of the Prince of Wales—later King Edward VII.—was availed of to begin the actual building of the harbour, and in 1875, he laid the foundation stone of what was once an open roadstead and was soon to become one of the most important harbours of the world.

The work in completion of the South-West Breakwater had hardly ceased when shipping interests began to ask for

more accommodation in the harbour; and in 1894, work was begun for the completion of a total area of 643 acres.

Some idea of the rapid progress of Colombo as a harbour can be gained when it is stated that whereas, in 1861, the number of vessels that called at Colombo was 81 ships, 90 barks and 131 brigs, in 1883, the tonnage had risen so high as three million and the harbour dues soared from 600,000 to 3,000,000 rupees.

Colombo today, needless to mention, is one of the most important harbours of the world both from a strategic and commercial point of view.

In 1932, it was able to accommodate so large a vessel as the "Empress of Britain" with a gross tonnage of 42,000, and continually finds room for P. & O. Orient and M.M. liners with an average tonnage of 22,000.

The statistics furnished below will give some indication to the growth of Colombo as a centre of shipping. The

recent "lean years" have not been taken into account as they would hardly afford any correct value.

	Total value of Imports	Value of Exports	Tonnage
1831	28 lacs of Rupees	15 lacs	61,000
1926	3,948 lacs	5,323 lacs	11,054,000
1929	4,030 lacs	4,226 lacs	13,655,000

	Tonnage of goods Imported	Tonnage of goods Exported
1905	568,000	380,000
1929	1,251,000	803,000

	Passenger Traffic			Total
	Embarked	Disembarked	In Transit	
1921	41,214	46,866	118,740	206,820
1929	73,110	77,008	150,375	300,493
1931	51,448	62,862	136,428	257,000

The peak was reached in 1928 with 326,675 passengers.

It is also to be noticed that the use of oil-engines by vessels has to a great extent affected Colombo as a port for bunkering. Nevertheless, with more prosperous times, it is not improbable that Colombo will once more attract as many vessels as she did in the years past.

Railways

IT was so early as 1845 that British enterprise saw the possibility of floating a railway company in Ceylon. The first company formed provided for a capital of a million pounds divided into twenty thousand shares. But, it was not till 22 years later that the contract for the construction Colombo-Kandy railway was signed. Meanwhile, a provisional agreement had been drawn up and in January, 1864, the first locomotive engine was landed in Ceylon and by 1865—October—the line from Colombo to Ambepussa was open for traffic. On April 25th, 1867, the line to Kandy was completed—a tremendous feat, which has since proved to be of immense value—

being thus achieved. Not only was the way full of danger and difficulty but, to the European engineers in particular the periodical outbreaks of fever proved a constant set-back.

Almost immediately after the opening of the Kandy line the then Governor found petitions and memorials from all parts of the island pressing for railway extensions. European planters in a flourishing coffee area beyond Peradeniya were both enthusiastic and adamant in their appeals, and by 1871, the contract for the construction of a railway to Nawalapitiya had already been signed. The Badulla and Uda Pussellawa planters next took up the cry and about 1878,

the Secretary of State approved of the extension of the railway from Nawalapitiya to Nanu-Oya. The work being completed by 1885.

The enthusiasm of the planters for railways and more railways never flagged and the agitation was very much kept alive. In 1894, the railway was carried to Bandarawela and from thence in 1924, to Badulla.

The Matale planters immediately after the completion of the Colombo-Kandy railway followed in the wake of the agitation, and in 1878, Sir J. Longdon inaugurated the work on this line.

Meanwhile, but for the planters, the Sinhalese did not manifest any keen desire for an extension southwards. However, in 1873, the governor announced that the railway line to Moratuwa was under survey. The proposed route was through the Galle Face. But, timely intervention by several Europeans "in the name of the ladies and children of Colombo saved the cutting up of the Galle Face walk, and the deviation of the route."

Since then the line has been extended along the coast through almost an unbroken belt of coconut palms for a hundred miles. It supplies the necessary communication between Colombo and the rubber districts of Kalutara, and the tea plantations of Deniyaya. The line touches at Galle, with its Dutch fortresses and buildings, and proceeds to Matara, pregnant with antiquated social conventions and famous for its learning. The line from Galle to Matara runs beside a number of buff brown cliffs and blue beautiful bays.

The Northern line to Jaffna and Talaimannar was later constructed. The railway passes through the dry zone, once the Granary of the East, touches at

Anuradhapura, which has taken its place among the buried cities of the world and continues its way up to Kankasanturai, 256 miles from Colombo. At Madawachchi the line branches off to Talaimannar pier, where it joins the South Indian Railway. While another branch line extending as far as the East Coast of Ceylon, was recently opened.

The planting districts of the Kelani Valley were next satisfied with the opening of a railway in 1900-1902, which was later extended to Ratnapura, the City of Gems, in 1912.

A narrow guage hill railway to Nuwara Eliya, the Sanatorium of Ceylon, was opened about the year 1904.

The Secretary of State alarmed at the rapidity with which extensions were being made, prohibited any further work being undertaken. But, this was later withdrawn, and in 1909, the railway to Negombo and later to Puttalam were taken in hand.

Today the West Coast from Puttalam to Matara is equipped with railways.

The main line extends as far as Badulla through varied sceneries and elevations. The craggy and precipitous section at Kadugannawa leads to the city of Sinhalese kings—Kandy. The line proceeds through Up-country tea estates as far as Nanu-Oya, wherefrom the narrow guage leads to Nuwara Eliya and Ragalla; and the Main line proceeds, presenting one of the finest views in the world, as the vast patnas roll undulating before the breeze and the Sun decks them with a wealth of colour.

Altogether, a fine network of railways has contributed in no small measure to the Industrial, Commercial and Social progress of Ceylon.

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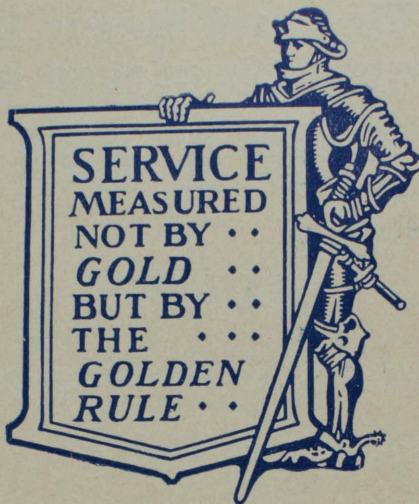
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The Illustrious Dead.

IT is not improper, perhaps, to include in this compilation a few pen-portraits of some of those who have left their footprints behind on the sands of time. From a galaxy of such distinguished personalities it is often hard to choose—there being so many of them.

Foremost among the legal 'stars'—and those were the days when the 'stars' were many—was CHARLES AMBROSE LORENZ. Equipped with a masterly command of the English language he wielded it with care and precision, here with a sly jest, and there with polished humour. As a politician and journalist, he was always to the fore and proved himself to be the redoubtable champion of the people. As a protest against a measure of the Secretary of State regarding the disposal of surplus balances, he created a stir in those early days, by leading the unofficial members to resign their seats.

GEORGE WALL was an immediate friend of Lorenz—always by him and with him. An Englishman by link, he played a tremendous part in the advocacy of the rights of the people. He was the founder of the Planters' Association and for several years its chairman. Later he was Editor of *The Ceylon Independent* and was instrumental in the establishment of the Breakwater and of a dry dock. To his untiring service on behalf of the people was also due the abolition of the paddy tax.

SIR MUTTU COOMARA SWAMY was a personal friend of Palmerston and Disraeli, and it is said that the latter had selected

him as the hero of his last novel. "His perfect mastery of English," said an English newspaper, "has rarely been equalled by any foreigner in this country." Lionised by London Society he was admired wherever he went for his learning and culture and had the privilege of dedicating his book *Arischandra* to Queen Victoria. He was incidentally the first man, who being neither Christian nor Jew, was called to the bar in England. He was also a member of the Athenaeum.

SIR EMERSON TENNENT was never a popular figure in this country—not even with his own countrymen. His policy in connection with the Rebellion of 1848, which started in the Kandyan Provinces, led to his being recalled. But all that is now forgotten; and his name is but remembered and will live to posterity as the leading authority on Ceylon and the life of her people during the last century. The wealth of information he has left behind in his works on *Ceylon*, *The Wild Elephant*, *Sketches of the Natural History of Ceylon*, and *Christianity in Ceylon*, is inestimable. The Civil Service of this Island has produced several enterprising and enthusiastic "writers," but none can find such a distinguished and conspicuous a place as the 'quondam' Colonial Secretary.

Of MAJOR THOMAS SKINNER, said Sir Emerson Tennent—"To him more than to any living man, the colony is indebted for its present prosperity." More than an engineer, he was essentially a road-

builder, prevailing upon the Government constantly to open out roads into the most inaccessible parts of the Island. His autobiography *Fifty Years in Ceylon* is even now a very readable and valuable publication.

MR. J. P. LEWIS of the Civil Service was himself a prolific writer and his contributions to the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* and the *Ceylon Literary Register* were both illuminating and interesting.

SIR RICHARD MORGAN has left his impress both in the political and legal sphere. At nineteen he was a Proctor, at twenty-four an Advocate, and at thirty-four acted as Puisne Judge. And, had he not refused the appointment owing to ill-health, he would have been the first Ceylonese Chief Justice. The Statute Book of Ceylon will ever remain a tribute and an index to his legal genius. He was also an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council and his strong advocacy on behalf of the people by no means found favour with the Government.

FREDERICK DORNHORST "was the greatest embodiment of the well-founded tradition that the successful schoolmaster becomes a successful lawyer." Foremost among his fellows, intellectually and physically, he loved the law, conjured with juries, and refused all attempts to secure him a seat in the Legislative Council.

TO CHARLES HENRY DE SOYSA of Moratuwa, Ceylon shall be ever indebted for his wonderful gifts of munificence. Perhaps, he was the greatest Philanthropist of the East and his wealth was so vast that it has never been equalled, nor will even be, by any Ceylonese. The

Eye Hospital, De Soysa Lying-in-Home, Bacteriological Institute, Prince and Princess of Wales Colleges, Holy Emmanuel Church, Princess Louise Hospital and a number of other institutions are lasting monuments to a man who lived for the service of his countrymen. He died on the eve of receiving a Knighthood, but the status of a Knight's widow was conferred on his wife.

SIR PONNAMBALAM ARUNACHALAM was prevailed on by his uncle Sir Muttu Coomara Swamy to enter the Civil Service and was thus the first Ceylonese to gain a place. At Christ College, Cambridge, he proved himself to be a brilliant student. As a member of the official wing, he found a place in both the Executive and Legislative Councils. But the atmosphere was too cramped for him, and on his retirement he threw himself vigorously into the political arena and fought strenuously for Reforms and more Reforms.

SIR PONNAMBALAM RAMANATHAN, brother of Sir Arunachalam, was nominated at the early age of twenty-eight as an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council. Later, his successful career at the Bar, led to his being appointed as Solicitor-General and thereafter as Attorney-General (acting). On his retirement from public service, he was elected to represent the Educated Ceylonese in the Legislative Council. His clear thinking and unfailing clarity of diction made him conspicuous in the public life of Ceylon.

His works of philanthropy include the colleges for boys and girls which he instituted at Jaffna.

SIR JAMES PEIRIS was the last, but by no means the least, of that glorious galaxy. Proceeding to England as the English University Scholar, he entered S. John's, Cambridge, and graduated with a Double First in Laws and Mental and Moral Philosophy. And moreover, had the unique distinction of being the first Easterner to be elected President of the Cambridge Union. On his return to Ceylon he practised as a lawyer; but the political field attracted him more. He advocated the cause of Reforms very strongly. On the Governor ceasing to preside at Council debates, Sir James was elected the first Vice-President of the Legislative Council.

Above all he placed his religion, and his character was spotless and unblemished. Even where the views of his colleagues differed from his, nobody for a moment doubted his sincerity of purpose. Charming and child-like, without arrogance or pride, his personality, and all that that embodied, will remain a guiding light to one and all.

It is impossible in a short review to do justice to the lives of great men. But one cannot help mentioning that their shades cry in vain over the present state of Ceylon. Whatever they did was born of high and noble ideals. They never prostituted their position in public life.



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The Church of Ceylon—Anglican Communion

By The Rev. Dr. G. B. EKANAYAKE, D.D.

THE Anglican Church entered on its work in Ceylon in the year 1796, when the maritime districts of the country passed under British Rule. There was no Bishop of Colombo and the parishes were under the Episcopal jurisdiction of the Bishop of Madras, the Archdeacon of Colombo being the administrator.

The first Bishop of Colombo was the Rev. James Chapman. He was appointed in 1845 by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. He appointed Chaplains in the chief towns under the sanction of the Bishop; and the chief Chaplains were stationed in Colombo, Kandy and Galle. Later on Chaplains were appointed to Nuwara Eliya, Jaffna and Holy Trinity Church, San Sebastian. There was a Naval Chaplain at Trincomalee and a Sinhalese Colonial Chaplain and a Tamil Colonial Chaplain. There were also in some of the provincial towns, Chaplains partly supported by Government.

Bishop Chapman was succeeded by Bishop Claughten, Bishop Jermyn and Bishop R. S. Copleston, who was the last Bishop appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Bishop Chapman built the Cathedral, founded St. Thomas' College, and established as part of it a Training School for Clergy.

During all this period, splendid service was rendered by the Society for the

Propagation of the Gospel, the Church Missionary Society, and the Tamil Cooly Mission. The work of Evangelization was carried on mainly by these societies.

In the year 1881, proposals were made for severing the connection of the Church with the State, and Disestablishment followed. As a result of this measure, a Bishopric Endowment Fund was created and a Diocesan Council, known for many years as the "Synod" of the Church of England in Ceylon, of which the Bishop is President and Clergy and lay representatives are members, was formed for the self-government of the church.

In all this work Bishop R. S. Copleston took the leading part. On his resignation when he was appointed Metropolitan of the province, "Synod" delegated the choice of a successor to certain bishops in England and their choice fell on the Rev. E. A. Copleston, who had worked many years in Ceylon. And, he was consecrated Bishop in Calcutta Cathedral by his brother Bishop R. S. Copleston.

The present Bishop, the Right Reverend Dr. Mark Carpenter-Garnier was elected by the "Synod" and was consecrated in S. Paul's Cathedral, London, ten years ago.

A few years ago when the church of India, Burma and Ceylon was constituted as a self-governing body, what was known as the Church of England in Ceylon

came to be designated the Church of Ceylon, and the "Synod," the Diocesan Council,—the name "Synod" being used to describe the assembly of Clergy under the Presidency of the Bishop.

The Disestablishment Measure passed nearly fifty years ago instead of crippling the work of the Anglican Communion in Ceylon has proved to be an unmixed blessing. The laity began to give of their substance for the maintenance and extension of the work of the church, though still the financial support given is wholly inadequate for carrying on the pastoral, evangelistic, and educational work of the church. Many of the laity show a keen interest in its work. The number of clergy has within the last fifty years increased more than fourfold. New churches have been consecrated almost every year and schools have multiplied in spite of the keen educational activities of other Christian and non-Christian bodies. Educational work from secondary schools down to village vernacular schools has always been a prominent feature of the work of the Church of Ceylon, and there is a net work of schools (carried on under great financial difficulties) spread all through the country.

Foremost among such institutions are S. Thomas' and Trinity Colleges, situated in Mount Lavinia and Kandy. These are second to none other Christian or non-Christian secondary schools in the Island, if not in anything else, at least in the culture they impart. The best of what prevails in the public schools of the West, is through environment and enthusiasm instilled into the growing manhood of Ceylon. And the fact that

their old boys occupy such distinctive positions in the public and social life of this country, is alone sufficient testimony to the valuable work they have done. What Miller, Buck and Stone, Fraser and Macleod Campbell have done is sufficiently borne out by their products.

All that has been said above of the leading boys' schools is equally true of the girls' colleges and schools—principal among which are Bishop's and Ladies' Colleges.

The former is under the control of the Sisters of S. Margarets, East Grinstead, who also do valuable service to the poor children of this country in several institutions managed by them.

Though supported by voluntary contributions from the public, the school for the Deaf and Blind, one of the very few institutions of its kind in the East was conducted by the Church of England Zenana Mission. Situated on the outskirts of Mount Lavinia, this school speaks eloquently of missionary enterprise in Ceylon. Hundreds of boys and girls, deaf and dumb or blind, are not only taught to read and write, but even trained for various industries. The progress and achievement is something that defies description in words—it is something that needs "seeing" to be believed.

Though various schools of thought found in the mother church of England are represented in this country, they work harmoniously under the wise guidance of the present bishop—though still a few laymen cling with fervent zeal to aspects of church life, which are becoming more and more obsolete in the Anglican Communion throughout the world.

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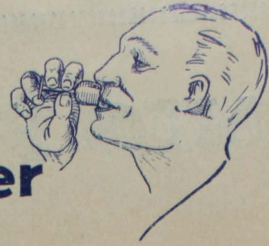
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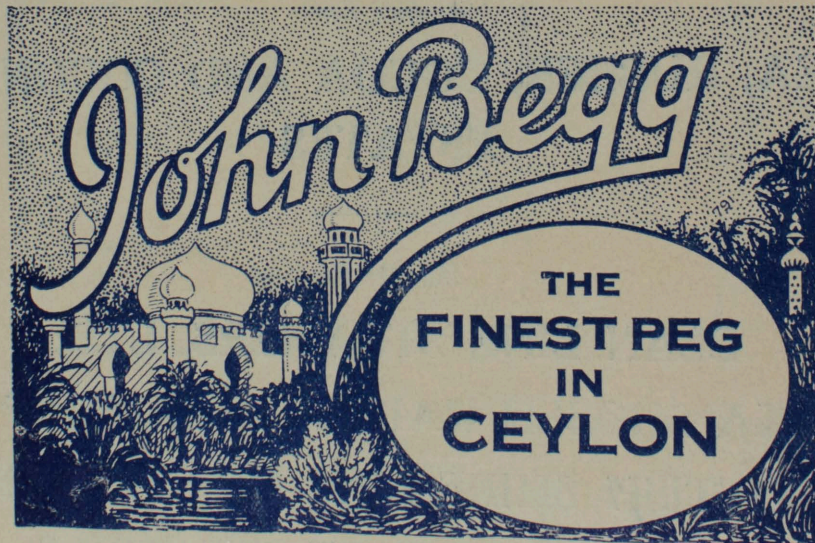
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In the field of Evangelization the Church of Ceylon has to address itself to a heroic task. The chief ancient religions of the world, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam are represented in this country and they have not by any means lost their vitality.

There is no religious discord between Christians and non-Christians. There is only a difference of outlook. The Christian community believes sincerely that the old religions are not adequate to meet the new conditions brought into being by modern thought and civilization, while non-Christians believe with equal sincerity that the ancient faiths

of the East can adapt themselves to meet modern ways of thought and life.

The two great tasks before any Christian church at the present day is the Evangelization of the world and the reunion of Christians. The former depends on the latter, for it stands written "that they all may be one . . . that the world may believe that **Thou** hast sent **me.**"

The unity of Christendom is the witness to the Divine Mission of Christ. Where the former is lacking, the recognition of the latter by the world languishes, as it has from the sixteenth century. The Divine Mission of the church can be carried on successfully only when the divine condition of union is fulfilled.



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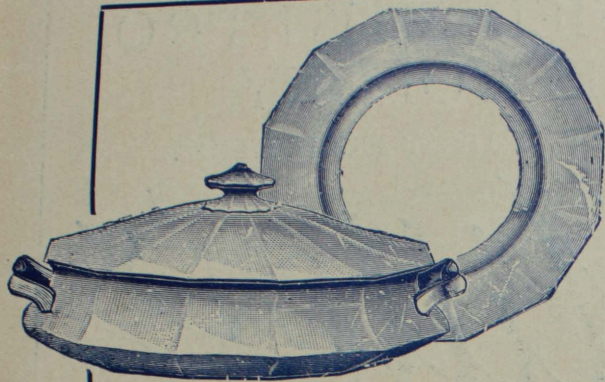
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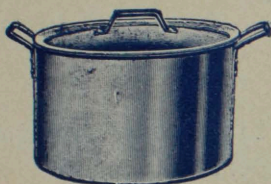


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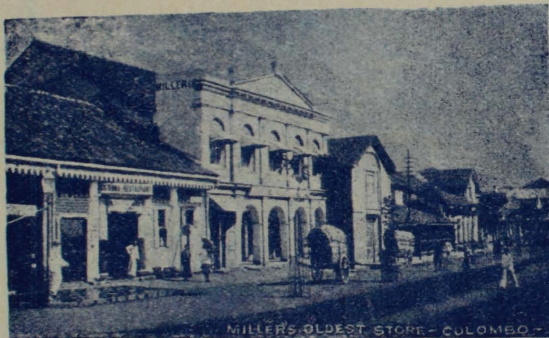
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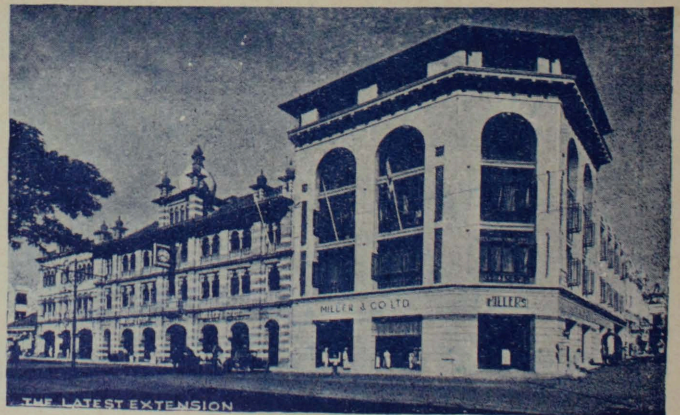
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