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THE SAIVA PRAKASA PRESS  
JAFFNA.VOL. LXII-  
NO. 65

JAFFNA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1950

PRICE  
10 CENTS

## ECONOMIC UPLIFT OF S.E. ASIA

### Malaya's Development Scheme

[Sri Lanka will be interested to learn about the progress other countries are making in Colonisation Schemes. The following account of the 'New Granary' of Malaya by the United Kingdom Information Service is, therefore, of typical interest.]

THE biggest development scheme undertaken in the Federation of Malaya during the past 50 years is nearing completion in the Tanjong Karang area of Selangor, 50 miles north-west of the Federal capital of Kuala Lumpur.

Little more than a decade ago this area of 50,000 acres was a wilderness of swamp and jungle, the haunt of rhinoceros and elephant and myriads of mosquitoes. Today it is one of the biggest granaries in the country. Some 45,000 acres have been converted into rich rice-producing land, while the remaining 5,000 will be ready for colonisation by the end of the year.

Tanjong Karang is the biggest of a number of schemes of planned colonisation which are being undertaken by the Federation Department of Drainage and Irrigation. The Government first turned its attention to the area in 1937, when a scheme for its irrigation was prepared. But funds were not forthcoming until 1939, and the scheme was still in its infancy when the Japanese invaded Malaya. Since the end of the war, however, rapid progress has been made, and today 80,000 people are living on the land.

The colony is bounded on the west by the sea, and a 27-mile-long bund has been constructed to keep out the tidal waters.

The total yield of padi in 1949 was estimated at 10,500,000 gantangs, which is equivalent to 15,500 tons of rice. This year rice to the value of more than \$5,700,000 has been produced, of which \$4,000,000 worth has been consumed locally and the rest exported to other parts of the country.

#### System of Local Govt.

The 80,000 settlers comprise 16,000 families, of which 14,000 are Malay, from all the States and Settlements of the Federation. They include a small colony of Indonesians. There are, in addition, 1,500 Chinese and 500 Indian families.

All the settlers start on the same footing. Each family is given three acres of agricultural and one of village land, as well as a subsidy of \$5 (St.) 150. They are exempt from rent and rates for the first three years.

Observers have acted on the strong co-operative spirit with which the settlers are imbued, and which is in strong contrast to

the feeling prevalent in some of the areas from which they have moved.

#### Co-operative Spirit

This spirit of co-operation is exemplified by the 14 small co-operative rice mills scattered throughout the area, where rice is milled for the colonists' own consumption. A large mill is to be erected in Tanjong Karang village where padi surplus to the requirements of the area will be milled, also on a co-operative basis.

While priority must evidently be given to the economic development of the area, the social services have not been neglected. For instance, 13 schools have already been built, three of them by the Government Education Department and the rest by the settlers themselves with the help of Government grants. The Government is providing a head teacher for each school.

The centre of the area is Tanjong Karang village, which is at present a colony of attap houses but will grow shortly into a well laid-out township of brick buildings. Tanjong Karang's main street is daily stacked with bags of rice and other produce of the area, such as vegetables and maize, which is sold there to dealers from Kuala Lumpur, with Government officers always present to ensure that the settlers get a fair price.

The colony has an embryonic form of local government consisting of a Planters' Council.

#### Interesting Facts

It is noteworthy that the eventual total cost of the whole scheme, including the clearing of the jungle, subsidies to the settlers and the provision of roads and schools, is likely to work out to no more than \$ (St.) 350 per acre.

In the early years of development the Government had great difficulty in attracting settlers. Today the position is completely reversed. Far more people wish to settle there than can be received, and the eventual success of the scheme is assured.

Tanjong Karang is a tribute both to the pioneering spirit and enterprise of the Malayan peasant and to the initiative of the Government and a good example of Malaya can play her part in the economic "uplift" of South-East Asia.

## Abolition of Tree Tax

### Agitation by Jaffna District Community Centres

At the Annual General Meeting of the Union of Community Centres of the Jaffna District, held recently, interesting resolutions came up for discussion:—

The following resolution proposed by Mr. A. Senathirajah delegate from Ganesha Community Centre, Urumpirai and seconded by Mr. D. M. Rajalingam of Ratkovalam Centre evoked much interest:—

"In view of the wide spread drunkenness and other vices that attend the Tree Tax System since its introduction into our country, the Jaffna District Community Centres' Union requests Government to abolish the Tree Tax system and re-introduce the Tavern System, which though an evil, is yet a decidedly lesser one."

Many of the delegates out of about 300 present, participated in the discussion and contributed useful information elucidating the various aspects of the resolution, which was adopted almost unanimously—the only dissentient urging total prohibition.

In pursuance of this resolution a sub-committee consisting of the following has been formed. They are expected to hold, inter alia, propaganda meetings all over Jaffna and educate the people on the evils of the Tree Tax System in particular and drink in general:—

Messrs. A. Senathirajah of Urumpirai, D. M. Rajalingam of

## Communists Quoting Scripture

The Communist regime in Czechoslovakia has set up a Working Committee to search the Bible and religious texts suitable for Communist propaganda. Its purpose is to reinforce the Red Government in its struggle against the Roman Catholic Church. A major objective will be to persuade the highly religious Czech peasants that the regime's land collectivization projects have a sort of Divine sanction.

### Indian Congress President Too Must Be Punctual

Shri Purushottamdas Tandon, the Congress President was "fined" on November 7 for arriving late at a collective spinning programme, organised by the Jaipur Charkha Parishad.

The Congress President on arrival was informed by the organiser that late comers had to pay fine in the form of one hank of self-spun yarn to the Parishad.

The Charkha Parishad President reports having received from Shri Tandon two hanks of self-spun yarn.

Katkovalam, Lewis Subramaniam of Manipay, V. Chundarampillai of Anaicottai, S. Markandu of Analaivatu, V. Kanapathipillai of Kaddudai, C. Kandiah of Elephant Pass with Mr. E. P. Rasiah as Convener.

## Democracy Or Dictatorship?

HE must be a demagogue or a dunce—he who can lead Democracy to Dancing. But that is, perhaps, we are all eventually coming to—Fire-dance? Gold help us if the stalwarts so choose. Good sense may be still beyond the horizon, but we may get out of nonsense if only bare sense prevails.

Democracy is a fine word and a finer idea. But Communism haunts it almost to a craze. The trouble is with the Democrats—all the world over. They have brought it down to hypocrisy as our comrades have evolved hypnotism out of Communism. The great G. B. S. proposed a wedlock between the two—and it was a beacon to the right direction. But then, what about the 'Clever rogues'? At best they would give us Hypnotic Hypocrisy. The same deadlock—but that is what all wedlock leads to.

Democracy cannot go well, they say, and has therefore to go away. Text book makers (as distinct from Turf Book makers) made it very clear how the inherent defects would make the

working Democracy unworkable. But it did not fail for that—the stalwarts dealt the blow. They manufactured equalities which cannot but prove unequal and inequitable. It cannot be helped, they say; but why not, they will not say.

The man-in-the-street is proverbially stupid. He cannot grasp the stupendous truth that the inequalities are there for a purpose and as the result of equality. His representative in the 'House of Big Fellows' does not help him or helps him as much as the white proxy does the coloured man in S. Africa. Is it colour-blindness? The Doctors Honoris Causa, of course) can say.

#### Red Drug

No wonder that the Red drug has a hypnotic charm for the commoner. Sorrows drag one to the peg. How can he resist it? To the politician 'total welfare' may appear to be lunatic without individual liberty. But the layman happens to prefer the lumatic to the imposter. Ill-fed

## The Background of the Attempted Assassination of Truman

THE real story behind the attempted assassination of President Truman by Puerto Rican Nationalists has not been adequately told. It is well known that the Nationalists are a tiny minority in Puerto Rico, constituting, not one per cent of the population as sometimes said, but only a small fraction of that. Advocates of independence may reach seven or eight per cent; but most of these have long since repudiated extreme Nationalist fanaticism.

No ordinary explanations for rebellion apply to the newest Nationalist uprising. It is, rather, an instance of political psychopathology. The followers of the hard driving Nationalist leader Pedro Albizu Campos, who in all hardly number 2,000, have been whipped into savage hatred by his fiery urging. Thus in Puerto Rico itself to the brazen attack at Blair House, you have to know the story of Albizu Campos himself.

In recent years he has often been inflammatory. At the time of the strike in the University of Puerto Rico during the spring of 1938, he launched the cry of "Lynch the Chancellor!" Breaking down the doors, the Nationalist mob almost did precisely

By

D. ALLEN in the  
Indian Social Reformer.

that. Albizu Campos then denounced the police for interfering. "Sooner or later," he said, "the outbreak of armed revolution will come to overthrow every despotism." He has systematically characterized Governor Luis Munoz Marin, once an advocate of independence, as "a Quisling of American imperialism."

#### Role of Misguided Pacifists

One pathetic sidelight is the misguided role of a few U. S. pacifists in seeking to picture Albizu Campos as "the Puerto Rican Gandhi". A handful, not representative of any substantial organization, have represented him to be a believer in Gandhiji's non-violent methods. It is true that his trial in 1936 for conspiracy in the killing of a constabulary colonel brought forth slender evidence against him, and that civil liberties groups felt the jury prejudiced. Sentenced to Atlanta Penitentiary for 10 years, he was released on parole after serving six years of the sentence. Efforts were then made for a pardon, and the idea of his Gandhian beliefs was used at the time on his behalf. It is clear today, if not before, that this was a slur against the Indian leader.

#### Heart-Searchings

Considerable heart-searching, however, should be caused every American by the earlier back-tired experience of this extremist. For when Pedro Albizu

Campos was at Harvard during World War I, he was just as fanatical an admirer of the United States as he is now an opponent. He wanted to get into the armed forces to fight for Uncle Sam. Advised to enter an officers' school where his brilliant attainments might be of special use, he found himself barred because of his dark skin. Seeking to get to France, he enlisted, only to find himself placed in a segregated Negro regiment. To his credit, his sense of outrage was not alone for himself, but for Negro soldiers also.

#### Emotional Antagonism

His bitterness at everything pertaining to United States life and politics stemmed directly from his personal experience of racial discrimination. Later, that bitterness was to be increased as the worst injustices to Puerto Rico were eliminated one by one. The granting of the right to elect a governor, then the right to choose its own constitution, were gains for the island that undercut his appeal to his following and circumscribed his influence. The less the U. S. had to apologize for because of its march away from the old colonialism, the more intense became Albizu Campos' fury. And after all, the main cause of his emotional antagonism still remained; race prejudice was not eradicated, either in the United States itself or in its dependencies. Thousands of people with dark skins were victims of discrimination and injustice. How blind the passion of the Nationalists finally became is indicated by the fact that Mr. Truman, pilloried by many in his own party for his stand on civil rights, became a symbol of the whole country's guilt.

#### Effects of Fanaticism

Thanks to fanaticism on the part of Albizu Campos and his Nationalists, grim wrongs are now being perpetrated, more than ever on innocent Puerto Ricans as a class. Teachers in the schools have made slighting references to Puerto Rican as a class. In the Bronx, those shootings of Puerto Rican bystanders were almost certainly done by gangs of Irish or Italian hoodlums, who have, as sometimes slighted groups themselves, been feeding with Puerto Rican residents. They can now excuse their wholesale hostility on the ground that "the Puerto Ricans tried to kill the President."

Violence begets violence, prejudice begets prejudice. Pedro Albizu Campos and the Nationalists cannot be excused for incendiary acts or attitudes; but there are smug Americans who must share the blame. For here is a case, not the first in history, of a brainy youth on fire with idealistic passion at injustice, goaded by "white superiority" to implacable hatred—hated just as indiscriminate and blind as the color prejudice which first embittered his soul. The tree of liberty, when poisoned by injustice at its roots, is always apt to bear an acrid harvest.





**Hindu Organ**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1950.

## Treasure These Thoughts

*There is no such thing as a blow in reality. After having entrusted oneself to God where is any room left for a blow? Therefore rejoices in suffering.*

—MAHATMA GANDHI

## TRUMANISM

MYSTIFICATION AT ITS WORST or mockery at its best, that is how the farce that is being staged in the international political opera can be described. The myriad hordes of Communist Chinese surging on the Korean Front as a mighty man-power unsettled the haughtiness of General MacArthur so much that President Truman had to throw the caution of calm deliberation to the winds and to threaten to use the Atom bomb in degenerate desperation. What a characteristic introduction of the Human Rights Week this declaration is, and that by the Anti-Communist leader who had all along been accusing the Reds of murderous intentions. And between Trumanism and Stalinism the line of demarcation has faded into faintness.

The most critical stage in the course of U. N. activities has arrived. The Truman-Attlee talks may explore all available diplomatic resources to resolve the Korean reversal and hit upon a face-saving device to recover lost prestige. But the suspicions of the people of the world have been deepened pointing to the conviction that both Truman and Stalin do not want peace. Against this barrenness of political comprehension of the Western Statesmen, the intellectual sobriety of Premier Nehru, particularly when he has been placed face to face with an intriguing international development on the very frontiers of his country, stands as an assuring relief.

The United Nations will be betraying themselves in a most cowardly manner if they cannot collect together sufficient military strength to prevent the out-break of a regularly declared war without having to take recourse to a method of attack which has been condemned on paper in holy seriousness, the using of the A. bomb, that infernal agent of indiscriminate devastation and destruction. The Big Nations that pride in their past achievements of unqualified triumph over the strongest of enemies should take a bold decision, if it should seem the only course, to settle the issue of peace by forcing a war on accepted terms of magnanimity sparing

## STALINISM—A DANGER SIGNAL

### Apprehensions About Appeasement Attitude

THE London Economist, (November 25) discussing the international situation at some length, warns against the dangers of Stalinism and appeasement.

It says: 'Doubtless behind the present talk of discussions with the Russians at the highest level of effort to reach a 'general and lasting settlement', of stopping the cold war and the 'drift to the world war', there lie mixed motives and divergent ways of thinking. Lord Salisbury's speech in the House of Lords last week was a wise and humble appeal for statesmanship which in saner days would have found an echo in Moscow. On the other hand, much of what has been said in the 'Peace Congress' at Warsaw has been foolish and arrogant. Between these two extremes are groups that believe now, as they believed periodically in the past, that another Yalta is not only desirable but possible, and that the Americans are as much to blame for the present tensions as the Russians.

"It is worth considering closely what precise grounds there are for believing that Moscow would not only welcome talks but would wish them to lead to conciliatory action. It is also worth considering what precisely a general settlement in the present circumstances could or should be. A layman who challenges the advice of the State Department and the Foreign Office on these two questions is under an obligation to produce his evidence and his proposals.

### Purpose of Peace Campaign

"On the first point the superficial evidence appears to support optimism. But the purpose and methods of the peace campaign are so patently subversive, so obviously part of a tactical development in Communist political strategy designed to obstruct Western rearmament, that they give no clue at all to the mood in which Stalin would receive a visit from Mr. Bevin and Mr. Acheson. The tone of the Partisans of Peace is bitter and abusive.

"Then there are the recent gestures and hints by Mr. Vyshinsky at the United Nations. The difficulty of distinguishing the genuine from the bogus gestures arises from three facts: first, they are made by the same men who have wrecked conference after conference since 1945; second, they were first made at the time when the Korean campaign had gone wrong for the Communists, and when the Atlantic Powers' defence plans were going right; third, the vital

the world the ghastly spectacle of satanic ravage.

Korea and Kashmir, Tibet and Transjordan, Indonesia and Israel well serve to keep the world guessing as to what ominous consequences would follow next. Truman and Attlee, talk they must, but let them have the chat not at a tea-poy but at a round-table with Stalin, Nehru and Mao sitting together not as strange bed-fellows but as ambassadors of peace. This may help dispel the misgiving that the plea for peace is either a Stalin strategy or a Truman trick or a combined camouflage. Will they act?

words that dominate discussion of these issues no longer mean the same to both sides.'

The Economist goes on: "There is a persistent belief that a general, lasting settlement would be possible. Recent history suggests that such a settlement would be loose and unstable, defining rough spheres of influence in the way that the Yalta Conference, did—and nobody in the West wants another Yalta. It is, moreover, certain that such an agreement would demand from the Western Powers sacrifices of interest and a review of obligations. If no concessions are considered, what inducement would be offered to Moscow to call off a cold war which has brought such rich dividends?

"There would have to be an end to the Politburo's avowed leadership of subversive action in the free world and to the virulent propaganda that poisons the air between the peoples. There would have to be free movement of persons and ideas between the two worlds, and reasonable courtesy and co-operation from Soviet officials and officers. In other words, Stalin's peaceful competition must not mean simply a continuation of the cold war by other means. If the aim of Soviet policy is to make its world safe for Stalinism, the free world's purpose is to make itself safe from Stalinism."

The Economist considers that there can be no compromise between these two demands. "So long as the fomenting of strikes, encouragement of sabotage, preach of subversion and the appeals to peoples over the heads of their governments go on, and so long as the invasion of Korea, Tibet and Indo-China are regarded as incidents in the liberating mission of the Stalinist system, so long is any real understanding and settlement unlikely.

"Two possibilities remain. One is that expansion is contained and contested in every part of the world where the free peoples are threatened, until Stalinism gives convincing evidence of having abandoned aggression: that has been for two years the policy of the U. S. A. and British Commonwealth. The other is that change in the Soviet system eventually lead to a change in its attitude to the outside world. The first possibility is within the power of the free world to attain if it tries hard enough. The second might one day be attainable by peaceful means, but is primarily the concern of the Russian people."

"The implication for the proper policy of either of these possibilities is to stand firm and wait", concludes the Economist. "Those who want to abandon or modify the policy of resistance just when it is taking shape and effect are surely confused by their own logic. If they are convinced that the Soviet Union does not intend war, then there is no point in urging the danger of war as the reason for premature appeasement. If, on the other hand, they believe the Soviet Union will go to war rather than accept a fair, just ordering of the world's affairs, then they should be advocating the speediest and most resolute rearmament as the one way to prevent a recurrence of what happened in Korea."

U. K. I. S.

## 'World Peace Movement'—A Cover For Communist Expansion

### How the Fabric of Goodwill is Destroyed

READERS of the late George Orwell's novel, 1984, will recall that in his totalitarian State of the future, the Ministry of Propaganda is called the "Ministry of Truth" the Ministry of Police the "Ministry of Love", and the Ministry of War the "Ministry of Peace".

In one field, this simple substitution of terms for their opposites has already become a fact in 1950: in the Communist-directed "World Peace Movement", which is an act of Soviet political warfare, aimed at undermining the resistance of the free world to Soviet aggression and preparing for a third world war.

A French Communist leader, M. Waldeck-Rochet, at a meeting of French Communist Party officials at Limoges on October 6, let the cat out of the bag with extraordinary frankness. In a statement which has been quoted by the French paper *L'Aube* as having been reprinted without denial in French provincial papers he said: "It is to permit the rearmament, the development of the Soviet Union's strength as well as of the strength of the popular democracies, that we must actively continue our propaganda in favour of peace. It is this movement for peace that will undermine the imperialist armies and delay the outbreak of war."

"Do you not see that this is the best means to assure the destruction of our enemies?" he asked. "The Soviet Union will choose the right moment and the imperialists will have no say in the matter. You will see, therefore, how important it is to develop our action in favour of peace."

Perhaps this statement, which sums up the aims of the Communist-sponsored "peace" movement with admirable clarity, will now be denied, after it has received world-wide publicity. But the

By

Sebastian Haffner

Diplomatic Correspondent of the "Observer", London

proof of its inherent truthfulness lies in the whole history of the "World Peace Movement", when put side by side with actual Soviet foreign policy and rearmament policy during the last few years.

The Soviet Union has prevented the conclusion of peace settlements in Europe and Asia by her refusal to make any concessions whatsoever regarding peace treaties with Germany and Japan. She has also systematically prevented the United Nations Security Council from functioning as a reliable safeguard of peace by her habitual abuse of the veto.

### Soviet Ruse

She has created an atmosphere of world-wide fear and insecurity through the forcible political assimilation and subjection of every territory occupied by her army as a result of World War II; through the instigation of civil wars and revolts by local Communist parties in Greece, Italy, France, Burma, Indo-China, and Malaya, and lately of open aggression in Korea; and through the maintenance of ever-whelming

armed forces on land and in the air, recently further strengthened by a massive post-war rearmament drive.

In the face of this, the Western Powers, who had made enormous territorial concessions to Russia at the end of the war, unilaterally demobilised their forces, and patiently tried for four years to seek agreement with Russia on peace treaties in spite of Russian intransigence, found themselves forced, most reluctantly and bitterly against their will to rearm in an attempt to save peace by creating "situations of strength"—in other words, by restoring a balance of power.

It is at this point that Russia has unleashed on them the "World Peace Movement"—a movement in which not only do Communists play the directing role, but which, under a Cominform directive of November 29, 1949, has become "the pivot of the entire activity of the Communist Parties."

### The Program

The "World Peace Movement" has two functions:

Firstly, by a propagandist exploitation of the universal desire for peace, to sap the moral capacity of the free world for resistance to further Soviet expansion;

Secondly, by the organisation of sabotage and subversion, to paralyse Western rearmament and create a clear field for Russian military aggression at Russia's own chosen time.

During the last half-year, the second aim has become more prominent. Thus the "World Peace Congress" at Stockholm last March has called for the setting up of "Peace Committees at the place of work"; and the meeting of the Executive Bureau of the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions at Budapest in May, 1950, became even more explicit when it called for "concrete action to reduce or limit armament manufacture".

Needless to say, such action is only to be taken by the "defenders of peace" in the free countries, whose Governments are automatically branded as "imperialists" and "war-mongers" in all statements by the "World Peace Movement". At the same time, the "World Peace Movement" is calling for redoubled armament efforts in Russia and her satellite States.

### Clever Exploitation

At some points, the propaganda and the sabotage aspects of the "World Peace Movement" overlap. The Stockholm Appeal for the "prohibition" of atomic weapons partly serves the propagandist function of deflecting world attention from Russia's sabotage of the internationalisation of atomic energy in the U. N. Atomic Energy Commission; partly it is directed towards neutralising the only weapon which the West has at the moment to set against Russia's huge military superiority in other weapons.

So far, the success of this large-scale Russian manoeuvre has been very limited outside the Iron Curtain; and the original choice of Sheffield for the second "World Peace Congress" was perhaps an indication that this

## Savings Movement Gathers Momentum

With the view to infusing greater enthusiasm among people and to urge on them the importance of saving both from the individual point of view and in the interests of the country, a series of propaganda meetings in Savings Committee areas throughout the Jaffna District were recently organised, Mr. P. J. Hudson, Government Agent, N. P., and Mudaliyar C. Thigarajah, District Organiser addressed these meetings. The question of sub-allocating the increased district target of Rs. 4,250,000/- for 1950-51 was also considered at these meetings and the following targets were accepted:-

Atchuvelli Rs. 60,000, Chavakachheri Rs. 225,000, Chunnakam Rs. 250,000, Chundikuli Rs. 300,000, Jaffna Rs. 900,000, Kokuvil Rs. 120,000, Kopay Rs. 30,000, Kankasanturai Rs. 90,000, Karanagar Rs. 175,000, Karaveddy Rs. 200,000, Kayts Rs. 90,000, Kilinochchi Rs. 40,000, Manipay Rs. 260,000, Pallai Rs. 60,000, Pandeterippu Rs. 60,000, Point Pedro Rs. 300,000, Pungudathivu Rs. 7,500, Tellipalai 300,000, Vajvettiturai Rs. 110,000, Vadducoddai Rs. 260,000, Vannarpondai Rs. 200,000, Delft Rs. 15,000, Chankanai Rs. 60,000, Myliddy Rs. 30,000, Udavil Rs. 150,000, Mallakam Rs. 190,000, Neervely Rs. 30,000, Pattur Rs. 430,000.

## Indian Supreme Court's Ruling On Confession As Evidence

The Indian Supreme Court, in the course of a criminal appeal judgment, ruled that once an accused went back on his confession, it had no evidence value.

The Court accepted the appeal of an Orissa orderly constable, Arjun Misra, against the Orissa High Court's decision which confirmed the conviction of the appellant on the charge of theft in a District Police Office involving a sum of about Rs. 2,500.

The Supreme Court set aside the Orissa High Court's judgment on the grounds that it was based on the confession which was subsequently denied by the accused. The Supreme Court differed from the High Court's judgment also because the latter had believed the story of the co-accused in its entirety and acquitted him, but at the same time upheld the conviction of the appellant on the basis of his retracted confession.

relative failure was realised in Moscow and that the controllers of the operation felt they had to do something drastic to galvanise the movement in the Western world—an intention now frustrated by the cool vigilance of the British Government.

However, it is well to bear in mind that any major success of this "Peace Movement" would bring war immeasurably nearer; for it would weaken the checks on Russian military power which now alone stand between the world and another general war; and it would remove the prospect of building a new world balance of power, which is the only basis now in sight on which an agreement for a peaceful co-existence of the Soviet Union and the free world might yet be reached.

It is the worst crime of the Communists that they exploit the very desire for peace in order to destroy the only basis on which peace can be saved; and it is a real tragedy that some genuine peace-lovers should allow themselves to be so deluded as to do the work of the enemies of peace and blindly help in destroying the fabric of peace with their own hands.



## Navalar Remembrance Day at Jaffna

Presiding at the public meeting held on Saturday December 1, on Navalar Day at the Saiva Paripalana Sabha Navalar Hall, Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, President of the Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabha expressed satisfaction at the awakening that has been in evidence of a religious consciousness.

Mr. A. Cumarasamy, Principal Hindu College, speaking next said that they were honouring a great scholar and spiritual worker to whom honour was justly due for it was he who put Jaffna on the map of Tamil Cultural learning.

Recalling to mind the part he had played several years ago, in commemorating Navalar Day Mr. S. Rajaratnam Secretary of the Hindu Board of Education thanked the Saiva Paripalana Sabha for having organised the Great Day in characteristic fashion.

Mr. V. Veerasingham, Principal, Manipay Hindu College said that the preachings of Navalar were of particular importance at the present moment because of the ideological cleavage that is ruining the progress of humanity.

Mr. S. Ambikaipakan, Principal Vidyashwara Vidyalayam, interpreted Navalar's achievements from a background of tolerance and advocated further religious reform.

Speaking for the Purists Mr. C. Nagaiyah, Secretary of the Veda Agama Saiva Siddhanta Sangam deplored the tendency of frail human beings to question the veracity and authenticity of the God-given Vedas and Agamas and declared that Sri La Sri Navalar if living, would bear testimony to his statement.

Earlier in the day Maheswary Pooja was conducted and all assembled participated in the Guru Pooja Feeding.

Songs from 'சங்கராஜன் மணி' were recited by a nephew of the late Sri Ambalavanar Navalar.

## At Tellippalai

"He was a warrior of proved mettle, a soldier who triumphantly fought the holy battle against proselytism. Let us honour him by recalling to our minds his doughty deeds" said Mr. R. N. Sivapirakasam, speaking at the Navalar Day Celebration held on December 1 at the Tellippalai Saiva Prakasa Vidyasalai.

Continuing Mr. Sivapirakasam declared that Sri La Sri Navalar had to be remembered now more than at any other time because of certain fresh attempts at proselytism from unexpected quarters.

Mr. T. T. Jayaratnam, Principal, Mahajana College, who presided at the meeting said that it was fitting that schools should celebrate the great day in all sincerity because of the fact that Sri La Sri Navalar had worked most for the cause of Tamil Revival by editing Text Books of a high standard.

Prizes were then distributed to school children who came out successful in the Essay and speech competition held earlier.

Mr. T. Ayadurai, Head Master of the school proposed a vote of thanks.

## NEWS-VIEWS

(BY RAJAN)

### Increased D. A.

At long last the Cabinet has agreed to pay increased DEARNESS ALLOWANCES to Government and Local Government employees. Viewed superficially, the new scheme will not fail to earn the commendation of the public. But it does not stand critical examination.

This scheme for paying enhanced D. A. does not seem to obey convention of commonsense — especially with regard to the under-Rs. 100 group. A glaring discrimination has been made between one who is in receipt of Rs. 100 per mensem and one who draws Rs. 101. The former (married or unmarried) are to be paid an increase of Rs. 5; while in the case of the latter it is Rs. 12-50 for unmarried and Rs. 25-00 for married employees. Thus, a married man drawing Rs. 100 loses Rs. 20-00 and a bachelor Rs. 7-50. Just because of a difference in Re. 1 in the basic salary.

Many of the Government employees — many married men — come under this group. The Cabinet's scheme, therefore, is more an insult than a measure of relief. There are others on whom has been thrust increased payments — the group who do not require any financial assistance. However, it is hoped that this anomaly would be rectified soon.

### The Colombo Plan

The Colombo plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia has been officially released by the Minister for Finance. This is the outcome of the "Jayawardena-Spender Plan" adopted at the "Colombo Conference of Foreign Ministers" an year ago.

It aims at helping the poverty-stricken and underdeveloped countries of Asia to increase their standard of living through the vigorous development of national resources. The report as a whole, embodies the individual six-year plans of the "Commonwealth" countries together with the conclusion arrived at by the "Consultative Committee" with regard to the implementation of those plans.

The plan does not seem to have been designed to produce radical developments within the six years. In proportion to the extent to which the economies of the South-East Asian countries need expansion to increase their standard of living, the development plans according to the report are far too inextensive. This shows that the Commonwealth Planners have taken great care to see that their target is within their means.

Ceylon's share in the program is to cost Rs. 1,350 million, of which Rs. 550 million will have to be obtained from outside. There are two

## ORDER ABSOLUTE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
POINT PEDRO

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 436.

In the matter of the Last Will of the late Periar Kadirgamar Eliathamby of Puloly East

Chellam alias Chellamuttu widow of K. Eliathamby of Puloly East Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal before P. Sri Skanda Rajah, Esquire, District Judge, Pt. Pedro on the 12th day of October 1950 in the presence of Mr. M. Esurapatham Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 4th day of April 1950 and of V. Senathirajasegaram Notary Public of Puloly East and Vinasthambay Sidamparappillai and Pillaynar Ramalingam of Thumpalai dated the 4th day of April 1950.

It is ordered that the will of the late Periar Kadirgamar Eliathamby of Puloly East deceased dated the 31st day of August 1931 and now deposited in the Court be and the same is hereby declared proved.

It is further declared that the said Petitioner is the Executrix named in the said will and that she is entitled to have probate of the said will issued to her accordingly.

This 12th day of October 1950

Sgd) P. Sri Skanda Rajah,

Drawn by District Judge.

Sgd M. Esurapatham,  
Proctor for Petitioner.

O. 87. 5 & 8)

essential needs for implementing the plans viz. technical assistance (for which a "Technical Assistance Bureau" is being set up in "Colombo") and financial aid. Both these problems may be solved, provided the "United States", give not only technical assistance but financial aid as well.

Dr. Malalasekera is reported to have said (vide Ceylon Daily News Nov. 27th) at Mahabodhi College, Colombo, that although the general assumption was that only two thirds of the population were Buddhists, there was in reality 80 per cent Buddhists in the country. Perhaps, the learned Dr. brings in statistical evidence to strengthen the plea for making Sri Lanka a Buddhist state. In this connection it would be interesting to note the words of "U. Tint Swe, Minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary for Burma in Ceylon", who in the course of a speech at the "Government Central School Tholangamuwa" said "Burma has no state religion although eighty-four per cent of the population of Burma are Buddhists".

Dr. Malalasekera will do well to take note of the fact, that whatever the percentage may be (of Buddhists in this country) the agitation for a "State Religion" will remain only an idle dream.

"..... Religion is not, and cannot be, a relation between the individual man and society. It is a relation between him and the 'Infinite Being' What is meant by a national conscience? Religion too is no more national than conscience".

## Atom Bomb 'Horror' Is Mystical

### British View

Sir Ernest Rock-Carling, a leading British authority on medical aspects of atomic warfare, dismissed the idea that there is a "mystical horror" about the Atom Bomb.

The real dangers, he told correspondents, were blast and heat and their effects were well known and their treatment understood.

Sir Ernest, who is Consultant Adviser for Casualty Services to the Home Office and the Ministry of Health, was introducing a series of medical papers on atomic warfare published today.

Sir Ernest made these other points: Hydrogen Bombs—whether they can be produced is still a matter for speculation and their practicability as weapons is extremely doubtful. There would be no need to use them, for Atom Bombs could do all the necessary damage and to drop Hydrogen Bombs would be using a sledge-hammer to crack a nut.

Biological warfare—it is extremely doubtful whether biological agents can be so distributed as to produce the desired results. Development of anti-biotics has progressed so rapidly that there is now available efficient treatment for practically all the agents that could be used in biological warfare. The only danger would be from the possible sabotage of water supplies.

Poison gases—latest gases developed from those devised by the German towards the end of the last war, are so lethal that they are "appalling". Because they are so deadly it has not been possible to "try them out", but there were reasons why it was unlikely they would be used in another war. One of the German factories producing these gases is in the Eastern zone.

Sir Ernest said the most elaborate plans for disposal of population, for medical services and for provision of shelters were being formulated in Britain.

### American Version

The Atom Bomb President Truman was talking about at his Press conference is a considerably different weapon from World War II models which, in two drops, killed more than 100,000 persons at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is, perhaps, six to ten times more powerful than the old model bombs whose radius of "total destruction" was half a mile. It is easier to handle and deliver and is, generally, a more variable weapon.

## Letters to the Editor

### Municipal Affairs

Sir,—The situation which has arisen lately over the expenditure of the Loan Vote of a lac of Rupees for electricity Main extensions is causing much concern to the members of the Jaffna Municipal Council and the public, although the Municipal Ordinance provides for the Finance Committee to sanction expenditure for the approval of the Council. This procedure is not being followed by the Mayor. Several unauthorised extensions involving thousands of Rupees of expenditure have been done by the Mayor. When the following questions were sent up to the Mayor in regard to the expenditure so far made and the balance remaining out of the vote the Mayor has informed me 'The time is short to include in the Agenda of December meeting and get replies ready.' In this connection I have to state that the Agenda for the monthly meeting has not yet been sent out and according to the Municipal Council Ordinance and the bye laws notice of motions and questions have to be sent four clear days before the date of the meeting. The meeting is to be held on the 9th, instant and these questions referred to were sent by me in the instant. With a view to escape a surcharge being made on the members for unauthorised expenditure I had sent on a motion dated 1st December thus "This Council resolves to request the Mayor to obtain the sanction of the Council for all the proposed extensions of Electricity mains and that in selecting the roads and lanes for such extensions the Mayor should consult the members. The Mayor has refused to place this motion in the Agenda for this month's meeting as according to him, "This requires serious consideration by officer concerned, and others as well." As it is today the Mayor had authorised extensions and which are completed without the authority of the council. There are sections on which there are not more than one or two consumers, I can point out the Thiddy Path and Colombagam extensions as useless extensions. The Mayor is unduly using his powers to gain votes for the next Mayoral contest without any consideration for the general good of the Town

1. What is the amount available from the loan for Electricity Main Extension and how much has been spent?
2. Was the sanction of this council obtained for the expenses incurred on all the extensions done so far?
3. On what basis were the roads and lanes for extensions selected; by whom were the recommendations and selections of such extensions made?
4. Why did not the Mayor place all estimates for the extensions carried out on the loan vote for the consideration of this Council?
5. Will the Mayor be pleased to inform as to the roads and lanes where Main have been extended so far on the loan vote and the numbers of consumers attached to each of the respective road or lane?
6. What is the cost of the last consignment of Mercury lamps bought and were tenders called for before the purchase was made; how many lamps were bought?
7. Are all the lamps fixed and if so will the Mayor state as to where all these lamps are fixed?
8. Is the Mayor aware that at the request of the member for Vannarponnai, the Mayor undertook by letter of 27-6-50 to fix a mercury lamp at College Street and Kasturbar road junction also, and why has this not been done so far although the Mayor has granted several late application.
9. Did the Mayor by letter of 24-7-50 inform the member for Vannarponnai that the number of street lamps at College street will

be increased, and why has this not been done yet?

Yours etc,  
T. S. DURAIRAJAH

## Village-Committee Without Clerk Chairman & Meetings

Sir,—The clerk working at the Myliddy. V.C. in the Kankesan-turai Electorate was ordered by the Chairman of the Local-Govt. Service Commission to retire on 31st. August last. Since then, there was no clerk in the office. The Chairman was making representations to the various authorities for a clerk. Unfortunately the Chairman too fell ill, and is at present in the Govt. General Hospital Colombo. This was brought to the notice of the A. C. S. G. Jaffna, who instructed the Vice-Chairman to take charge of the V. C. until the arrival of the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman himself is new to the work and he is incapable of managing its affairs without the aid of an experienced clerk. The A.C.U.C. was approached on this matter but he too was not prompt in taking immediate and suitable action. As a result of the foregoing facts, meetings of the committee were not held since August last, and all the works of the Committee are at a stand still. Great inconvenience and hardships are caused to the poor tax-payers of the V. C. area. Attempt by some other members of committee to move the machinery work, proved fruitless. Daily numerous letters and telegrams are flowing to the house of the Chairman who is now in Colombo for immediate attention and urgent replies. It is a great wonder, that the Local Government Authorities, knowing full well the present state of things with the V. C. are rushing up with urgent calls without taking any action to make the machinery move. It is not known whether the Office of the Local Govt. Service Commission is not moving fast in this respect, or there is no suitable hand with the commission to fill up the vacant post. Will the authorities concerned take up immediate action without further delay in this matter.

Yours truly  
K. Ponnambalam  
V. C. Member,  
Myliddy.

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### NEW ADMISSIONS

**Collegiate Department**  
Students seeking admission to London Intermediate Science Classes in January must take an admission examination on Jan. 5th and 6th. Application forms may be secured from the College Office and must be returned before December 21st to The President, Jaffna College, Vaddukodai.  
For admission to London Inter Arts, B.A., and B.Sc. (General) classes, students should consult the President immediately.  
**Secondary Department**  
Upper Form I to University Prelim.  
Students seeking admission must take an admission examination on January 5th and 6th. Application forms may be secured from the College Office and must be returned before December 21st to the Principal.  
**Lower Department**  
Kindergarten admission to Lower Form I.  
Students seeking admission must take an admission examination on the 16th inst. Application forms may be secured from the Supervisor Lower Schools and must be returned before the 14th inst. to him.  
Next term opens on the 8th of January, 1951  
Jaffna College,  
Vaddukodai, 2-12-50 (M 173 5)



## Democracy Or Dictatorship?

(Continued from page 1)

men are well fed-up. Aren't they?

In India, during British rule, we were told that we were not fit for democracy. There was an understandable reason behind it. They could not afford it, indeed! Now that the strange logic of the stranger Government binds us no more, it would be natural if we estranged ourselves from their findings. To prove our freedom we have left their line of thought but to retain their wisdom we have it on the other way. While they thought, we were not fit for democracy, we have found—freely to be sure—that democracy is not fit for us. Quite a different conclusion, after all!

We can quote from the Scriptures, cite G. B. S. or Tagore and recite Comparative History to prove that we are right. The malicious critic may relish in fault finding; because that is delicious. But the fact is there—the undeniable fact. Democracy has its own flaws. Then there is the steel-frame which is a legacy of the past. Above all there are anti-social forces let loose at the heels of war. They all conspire to sabotage our cause. There is no omission or commission on our part. Nothing like that.

Yet we stand for 'People's Raj'—our own people's, no doubt. Who are they? They may be distinguished from others by the badge as distinct from the ban. This is not undemocratic. It only shows the extent to which democracy suits us. Is not suitability a great consideration? If God cannot manage without chosen people as is evident in a democracy of theocratic variety elsewhere, how could we, mortals?

In the last Congress Session (more widely known as the Nehru Session) the leaders of India's progress won another victory over Democracy. Not to speak of the politicians, it has baffled our Note-makers of Political Science. The latter are reputed for suggesting impossible answers for all possible questions, as they say. Even they could not tell us what the fate of democracy would be when we are all unanimous about everything before us. It cannot be sane? Sanity or

no sanity, it has given us a clue to the solution of a great problem.

### Clue To Solution of Problem

Democracy or Dictatorship?—rocks the pendulum. All the world swings with it and feels giddy too. When reason fails, as most of the pacifists want it to fail, atomic forces may be invoked to decide the point. Nobody knows if anybody will live to see the decision. Just at this juncture we scored a victory at Nasik. Those that have eyes to see, will find that Dictatorial democracy or Democratic dictatorship is no longer a fiction but a fact.

No matter if it is stranger than fiction. Could a less surprising thing avert an international crisis? The triumph (or the trumph) was eventual but any way we have at last. We wonder why it did not strike us earlier! The process is so simple.

Well, we have merely to choose our representative (and not representatives, as we do in crude democracy) who will see things for us and direct us accordingly. Our friend, philosopher and guide—three in one. Nothing is lost but a good deal of national energy is saved. We are already used to have everything done by our representatives, only reserving for ourselves the right of bearing the brunt. Would it injure us much if we abolish the 'Debating Club'? Perhaps not much.

We believe there will be no constitutional difficulty either. The great constitutionists who have successfully pulled 1950 back to 1935 can easily do this little job of reconciliation. Yes, we have every confidence in their ability as much as we have in the pliability of our 'objectives'.

The chief problem solved, now remains the problem of the chiefs. What would be the fate of our so many Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Sub-Deputy Chiefs and other Chiefs who are legion? It would be a national calamity if they are deprived of Chieftainship. This may be cheaply solved by the introduction of dancing. Large scale dancing, to be sure,—and two sets of dancing. The upper class is already accustomed to dance attendance to the authoritative whims. They know the technique. For the rest—the Bratachari, Kathakali or the ultra-modern miscellany—only fire-dance banned!

—(By Pan Chew In Orient Illustrated Weekly.)

## WORKSHOP FOR THE OLD



Man's "allotted span" is three score years and ten and when he reaches it—and sometimes even before—he is usually considered to be redundant on the labour market. Rubery Owen and Co., of Darlaston, Staffordshire, an engineering firm, have set to work to disprove this. An "Old Folks Workshop" known as "The Sons of Rest" has been created in a building about a mile away from the main factory. Here away from the noise and bustle of the main factory and with no young workers to give them an inferiority complex about their age, twelve men, all over the age of 70 are helping the expert drive. "Sons of Rest" leaving their workshop after their day's work. Some have slowed up with the years but the skill so badly needed in industry is there and the willingness to turn out a good job.

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Printed and Published by S. P. KANDIAH, F. I. S. A. (Lond) residing at 245, Navalar Road, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors the Saiva Paripalana Sabha, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakash Press, Vannaraponnai, Jaffna on Tuesday, December 5, 1950.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: T. Muttusamipillai.

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