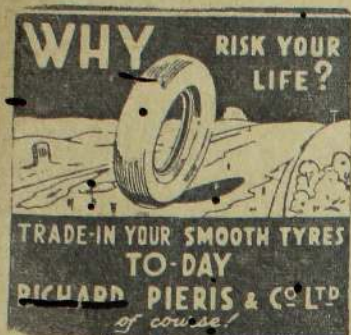
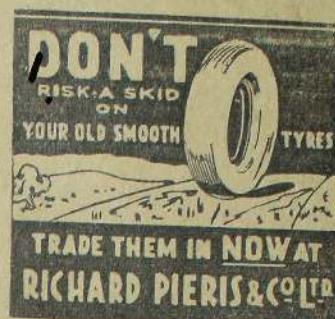


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Govt. Policy On Ceylonisation Of Trade Commerce Minister Clarifies The Position

OUR Ceylonisation policy is providing many difficulties. We want your help and co-operation in implementing it. I also want you to remember that the Government has assured us that it will not interfere with existing trade. We have to admit that the old established business houses have done much to promote trade and that Ceylon owes a great debt of gratitude to them.

This was stated by Mr. Shirley Corea, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Fisheries at a reception accorded him at "Siri Kotha" by the merchants and traders of the City on Thursday last. "The old business houses had done much in advertising our goods and winning for Ceylon the high reputation and respect she enjoys in all parts of the world," he added.

AIM OF POLICY

Continuing Mr. Corea said: "Our Ceylonisation Policy is not intended to create racial or communal hatred. We only want our nationals to have the opportunity of taking their rightful place in the trade of Ceylon which during foreign rule was monopolised by non-nationals.

"The common object of all traders should be the development and extension of Ceylon's trade. Let us therefore allow the new spirit of intolerance and bitterness to creep into the trade sector, but unite, to promote and develop Ceylon's trade, preserving the traditions set up by those businessmen, who in the past by their integrity and enterprise made Ceylon's trade flourish throughout the length and breadth of the world."

MISSION TO EUROPE

The first official delegation from Ceylon to visit Europe proved successful owing to the help I received from the members of the Delegation who were representatives of trade associations whose co-operation and support eased my task considerably.

"Those representatives helped me considerably by their contribution. Their knowledge and experience proved extremely useful and I am very grateful to them for the co-operation and support they gave me.

"I consider the work we did in Europe to be of the utmost importance to Ceylon. We made personal contacts and had useful discussions with both government officials and private traders and associations. We entered into trade agreements with some countries and several other countries agreed to consider entering into agreements with us. The work we did, however, would be useless if the traders of Ceylon do not follow up these contacts and promote direct trade with these countries.

Moreover, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia are sending trade delegations to Ceylon. In fact, a Polish Mission has at-

ready come. I feel confident that these missions will prove to be of considerable benefit to the development of trade between Ceylon and those countries.

"I welcome their visit mostly because I feel that new markets for our coconut products can be found in East Europe. Exports are daily increasing. There where the demand for oils and is no doubt difficulties in the way, but these must be overcome.

NEW MARKET NEEDED

"Whilst retaining our contacts with the traditional markets however it is necessary to find new markets for our products. Competition with cheaper and inferior products from other countries has to be overcome. The high cost of production and the superior quality of our products necessitate our getting higher prices for our goods. It is a difficult problem.

"I was rather alarmed at the prospect of cheap and inferior products supplanting our more expensive and superior products. Intensive propaganda and hard work is necessary to combat this competition and prevent this calamity. The trade must push the sale of our goods with greater zeal and enthusiasm. There must be more propaganda and everything possible must be done to win and retain the confidence and goodwill of the traders of the world.

RUBBER-RICE PACT

"The Rubber-Rice Pact with China has been the cause of much controversy both in Ceylon and in other countries. This Pact has to be studied

within the background of past history and experience. We live in a land of short memories, but still I feel that even the worst critic of the Pact will admit that at the time we entered into this Trade Agreement Ceylon was in great distress and deep despair.

"The rice producing countries would sell us rice only at exorbitant prices and on their own terms. The price of rubber had fallen below the cost of our production. Ceylon was faced with an adverse trade balance and our external assets were fast dwindling. Under these circumstances, Ceylon was lucky to receive this attractive proposition from China. It saved us from economic disaster and even starvation. Ever since then two schools of thought have arisen—one for and one against the Pact.

"All the ingenuity of mathematicians has been harnessed by the opponents of the Pact. Arguing from false premises they would have us believe that the Prime Minister of Burma has made representations to China that every year Ceylon has succeeded by her negotiations with China to depress the price of rice in the world market.

"Burma, as you know, is the largest single exporter of rice and can speak with authority on the subject.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESENT EVENTS

Minister Calls for "Return to Sanity"

"OUR country today is passing through a difficult period. We are becoming arrogant, suspicious and mistrustful of others. We are tending to confuse liberty with licence. We cannot hope to make any progress unless there is return to sanity," deplored Mr. E. B. Wikramanayake, Q.C., Minister of Justice, in his address to the Regional Conference of Y.M.C.A.s of Ceylon held at the Central Y.M.C.A., Fort, on Saturday. Senator E. W. Kannangara, O.B.E., presided.

Aim of the Y.M.C.A.

Mr. Wikramanayake continuing said that it was for institutions such as the Y.M.C.A. to bring about that return to sanity.

"It is not enough to preach tolerance, goodwill and understanding," he declared. "We must practise it and there is no better method of learning its lesson than personal contacts and friendships.

"There is today throughout the country a spirit of lawlessness, a lack of discipline, a disregard of the rights and even the lives of one's neighbours.

"We see it at public meetings and even at school cricket matches. It manifests itself in the alarming increase in crime particularly grave crime.

Juvenile Delinquency

"It is my experience in the couple of years as Minister of Justice that the majority of murders are committed by young men between the ages of 20 and 24. And they are committed not in the heat of a quarrel but are premeditated

and sometimes carefully planned.

"I am afraid that juvenile crime is also on the increase. Precept and Example

Mr. Wikramanayake said the Y.M.C.A. was one of the few institutions in Ceylon which lived up to its name. "Its outlook is essentially Christian. It makes no distinction of race, creed or colour. It extends an equal welcome to anyone in the country, whatever his status in life. Young or old, rich or poor, all are readily admitted to membership. They meet on equal terms, they share in its privileges, and by precept and example they help to spread the gospel of tolerance and understanding."

The Minister added that he was confining himself to the topic of the Y.M.C.A. because it was rather dangerous these days for anyone to make a public speech, more particularly when he was a member of the Government. "Any topic may become a controversial one," he added.

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Solving the Problem of Undeveloped Countries

A Resources Survey of Ceylon Begun

"WE cannot have a free world in which half its population starves. As Confucius once said: an empty stomach does not dwell on high principles. We can and we must give the lie to those who say we have nothing to offer by materialism. We have much to offer, even if all we do is to point the way of our Asian friends to the achievement of a way of life which has as its base the freedom of the human being—but first must come enough food," said Mr. Nik Cavell, Administrator, Colombo Plan in Canada, on the occasion of the inauguration in the course of an address for the team of technicians entrusted with a project, namely, a new aerial survey embracing a resources survey of Ceylon, which is to be carried out by the Photographic Survey Corporation Ltd., Toronto.

The same team which had been carrying out a similar survey in Pakistan which has just concluded is to be entrusted with this task. "Our experts have examined the field with great care and have concluded that the same company is peculiarly fitted to carry, through this survey also," added Mr. Cavell who expressed the hope that the officers and technicians would do all in their power to enhance the aims and objectives of the Colombo Plan.

Aims and Objectives

Continuing he said: If we are ever to enjoy a stable world, free from the ravages of continual wars, we must find some way by which to establish a rule of law in international affairs. A stable and safe international situation cannot be attained in a world, one half of which is starved and poverty stricken. It is the recognition of this fact which has given rise to Colombo Plan. The Plan was at first a Commonwealth approach to the problems of the under-developed countries of South-East Asia, but countries outside the Commonwealth have now been brought in, including the United States, South-East Asian countries and Japan. Can the free world assist the free Asian countries to attain it? That is the great question, and upon its answer very largely depends the future of the free world, which means the future of our own children.

Inception of the Plan

The Plan came into being, he said, at a meeting of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers held at Colombo, Ceylon, in January 1950. Much has happened since then. Canada alone has carried through, or is in process of carrying through, 45 capital projects in various South-East Asian countries. Canadian experts have gone to Asia to assist in various phases of the development of countries in the area. A large number of Asian students have come to Canada for training in our factories, for work in our Government institutions, and for study at our universities and agricultural colleges. Similar work has been carried on by Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand. The United States has poured money and men into the area and received numbers of students for training. The United Nations has made a very great contribution in technical assistance, agricultural research, medical aid, education and other fields. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has made a number of valuable loans, and various private bodies, such as for instance the Ford Foundation, have made valuable contributions. The sum total of these efforts has had considerable results, but the surface of the problem has only been scratched and the work goes on, such as for instance the aerial survey in Ceylon which is about to commence

Ceylon's Position

Mr. Cavell in conclusion referred to the conditions in Ceylon which he described as "one of the bulwarks of our free world in South-East Asia and as a member of the Commonwealth has a democratic constitution and way of life."

He said: "You will find yourselves in one of the most delightful islands in the world, working amongst a charming and very courteous people. But also, you will find a very different civilization in operation there from our own, an older and in some ways—particularly philosophical ways—more mature than our. Judged by our technicians and industrial standards they have a long way to go to catch up. You must remember that just as the two recent wars disorganised our way of life, so they did theirs, but to a much greater extent. The international chaos following these wars hit them, and all the other countries of South-East Asia, much harder than it did us—their economic foundations were, and are, far less secure than ours. I suggest you keep all these things in mind during your stay amongst them. They are short of trained technicians, short of technical educational institutions, and Canada is trying to assist them to overcome some of these shortages. You will find many Canadians in Ceylon working on other Canadian projects we have established there.

Warriors in the Struggle

The work you have done in Pakistan and will do in Ceylon makes you all warriors in that struggle. Eventually it is human freedom which is at stake, which is another way of

saying, human happiness, and we who have worked out at least some of the problems of maintaining a free society owe it to those of the under-developed areas to assist them by putting at their disposal the benefits of our experience. We can and we must give the lie to those who say we have nothing to offer by materialism. We have much to offer, even if all we do is to point the way for our Asian friends to the achievement of a way of life which has as its base the freedom of the human being—but first must come enough food. As Confucius once said: "An empty stomach does not dwell on high principles." We cannot have a free world in which half its population starve.

The continuance of our own freedom depends on our ability to enlarge and make secure a free world which must of course include our Asian brothers on a basis of brotherhood and equality. It is up to us who are free and very wealthy compared to Asian standards, to develop that understanding and intellectual grasp which will enable us to give enlightened help to South-East Asia. That is what we are trying to do through the Colombo Plan, under whose auspices you will now play your part by taking there those skills and arts which they need to help them in their development.

Gorakana Youth League

At the annual general meeting of the Gorakana UNP Youth League presided over by Mr. D. C. W. Kannangara, M.P. (Panadura), the following office-bearers were elected for the current year:

Patrons: Mr. D. C. W. Kannangara, M.P., Mr. Edwin R. Perera, J.P., Mr. P. T. Fonseka.

President: Ayurvedic Dr. G. Wilfred Fernando.

Vice-President: Mr. Dharma-dasa Alwis.

Hony. Jt. Secretaries: Messrs Wilfred de Alwis and P. K. Piya-dasa.

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. K. Siltan Diaz.

A committee was also elected.

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National Games to be Re-Place Inter-National Games

In places like Maniyangam mythical origins. Ankeliya where Gudu, Pora Pol and Pandu once devised the leisure of the community, Volley-ball, athletic items like High Jump, Long Jump and Sprints not to mention the old game of "kaduru" ball cricket are being fostered most enthusiastically. There will now be some who want to wipe out all "imported" games "forgetting that we live in the 20th century where inter-national games are also a means of inter-national relationships. Like the rivers and mountains inter-national games are sure to go on. But national games have also a place in the community when they are bound up in historical traditions and religious observances. In games like Ankeliya and Pora Pol might be found the racial genius of the Sinhalese. They have been a theme for national celebrations like Sinhalese New Year on account of their religious significance and as in the case of Greece and Rome where national games were connected with the cult of Athene and other deities, here in Ceylon national games are associated with the cult of Pattini Deviyo. What national games need today is its rightful place in national festivals related to religious rites not for the purpose of preventing drinking bouts on these occasions as the police believe, but to revive religious living among the people.

The games of Lanka are games that have also a relation with games of a people engaged in agricultural pursuits. The games are so devised as to have a seasonal rhythm and have given young and old pleasure during times of harvest generating a spirit of thankfulness for the benevolent Sun, the early rains and other elements.

For instance with Lanka under no less than 7 manifestations of Pattini Deviyo the games of Ankeliya and Pora Pol her favourite games are more or less semi-religious and are regarded as propitiary games for appeasing Pattini Deviyo one of the four guardian deities of the Island.

Many of these games have

has it that Pattini Deviyo was out one day with her husband gathering "sapu" flowers. To enable them to reach the flowers they had long hooked sticks caught in each other in the tree and they could not extricate them. While they were considering, what they should do the three sons of Vishnu came by and on being appealed to by Pattini Deviyo they good-naturedly took hold of the ends of the two sticks and with "a long pull, a strong pull and a pull together" broke the crook off the husband's stick and so liberated them both. Pattini Deviyo was so pleased with the performance that she suggested a game after the model of what she had just seen. So the game of Ankeliya was inaugurated and whenever it is necessary to appease Pattini Deviyo and during times of national celebrations the game of which Pattini Deviyo is said to be so fond is performed to propitiate her.

Pora Pol is related to the custom of breaking coconuts in honour of Pattini Deviyo, a fruit which comes from one of Lanka's blessings beautifying and abounding the country and rendering a thousand and one uses from flowers for every occasion to shelter and food for the people.

Ankeliya and Pora Pol are associated with a number of ceremonies when there is pestilence in the villages. During epidemics these games are held over and over again and the performance of these ceremonies which includes bathing, donning of new clothes and sweeping of compounds and burning of dirt in whole villages that aspire for a visit of the processions held in connection with these games result in perfect sanitary conditions being established in times of sickness.

It would thus seem that the present environment might be unsuitable for games of the Muravaliya and Sudhaliya Suramba Salas (military training centres) like Kadu Pallis haramba (fighting with swords on horse back) Hasti silpa.

RUBBER STABILIZATION FUND

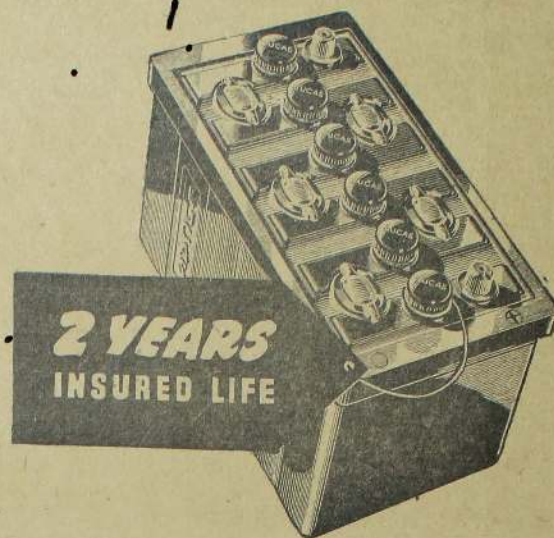
The following questions were asked in the Senate by Senator E. W. Kannangara on the above subject and Senator E. B. Wikramanayake gave the oral answers:

(1) What sum was lying to the credit of the Rubber Stabilization Fund on 30th September, 1955? (2) What is the approximate total of the sum, if any, paid out of this Fund up to 30th September 1955, which enabled the Rubber Commissioner to pay to the rubber producer a price over and above that which the Chinese Government paid the Ceylon Government? (3) When does Government propose to introduce legislation to ensure that the Rubber Stabilization Fund, is utilized solely for the benefit of the rubber industry and to prevent its use for other purposes? (4) What sum or sums have been lent up to 30th September 1955, from this Fund to the Rubber Replanting Fund. If so, on what terms?

The Answer

A sum of Rs. 30,255,000 was lying to the credit of the Rubber Stabilization Fund on 30th September, 1955. This Fund is now called the Reserve Fund. (b) Rs. 1,060,000 (approximately). The quantity of rubber shipped on this basis up to 30th September, 1955, was 3,900 tons. A further sum of Rs. 3,260,000 was outstanding on rubber purchased but awaiting shipment. (c) The introduction of legislation is under consideration. (d) The answer to question (4) is nil. (e) A sum of Rs. 10,000,000 has been sanctioned by Government for transfer on loan from the Reserve Fund to the Rubber Replanting Fund. The terms of the transfer are that this loan should be returned if the Hon. Minister of Commerce, Trade and Fisheries requires the money for the purpose of the Stabilisation Fund. This sum has been earmarked for payment accordingly.

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THE LANGUAGE FRONT

At a meeting of the Central Council of the U.N.P. organisations, Kotte, held at the U.N.P. Branch Office, Maharama, the question of the language front was discussed and it was decided that Sinhalese only should be the State language. Mr. Ananda Tissa de Alwis, the Assistant Hon. General Secretary of the U.N.P., addressing the gathering, said that Tamil members of Parliament like Messrs. Suntharalingam and Ponnambalam were trying to raise communalism and become leaders of the North.

He added that if the country were to be governed in more than one language and if parity of status were granted to a language of the minority with a language of the majority, it must give parity to other minority languages and all languages should be the State languages. According to the present system of education nearly 90 per cent. of the population of this country would be educated in Sinhalese. Therefore it would be impossible for the country to be governed in two languages. If the Tamils could learn a completely foreign language like English, it should not be difficult for them to acquire a knowledge of Sinhalese. He pointed out that the

language spoken by the majority of the people of this country should be made the State language.

Referring to the motion which was passed unanimously at the meeting to request the Government to make Sinhalese the State language, Mr. de Alwis said that the U.N.P. would hold a special session to discuss the language issue, after the Prime Minister returns to Ceylon at the conclusion of his goodwill tour of Australia, New Zealand and Thailand. He appealed to everyone to support the motion.

Mr. Jinadasa Niyathapala, Joint Secretary of the All-Ceylon U.N.P. Youth League, observed that in India though there were hundreds of languages, the Government of India had not allowed all those to be State languages, but only one. He pointed out that one language would promote peace and harmony among the various communities and create a bond of unity. He asserted that the State language should be Sinhalese, the language of the majority.

Others who contributed to the discussion were Messrs. D. R. Alwis, W. M. A. Weerasinghe and D. A. Weerakkody.

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STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

IT will be a matter of great amusement to the Sinhalese people to find that people like Mr. W. Dahanayake, Mr. Soma wira Chandrasiri, and Mr. Philip Gunawardena are among those who are trying to tell the masses of this country that they have some wonderful undying affection for the Sinhalese people. Leaving aside the merits of the question of Sinhalese only as State language, we would like to deal with these interlopers and expose their antics.

In 1947 when the first Parliament assembled Mr. D. S. Senanayake as Head of the U.N.P. Government introduced a resolution whose importance to the Sinhalese was even more significant than the present raging cry for Sinhalese only as State language. Mr. Senanayake moved in Parliament that the entry of immigrants into Ceylon from India must be totally banned. Before that time Ceylon and India had been both part of the British Empire and no barriers between fellow members of that Empire could legally be enforced. Owing to this thousands and thousands of Indians were coming into Ceylon without any let or hindrance. When Mr. Senanayake tried to ban this entry of Indians, the Ceylon Parliament was composed of no less than ten elected Indian Members sitting side by side with people like Mr. Philip Gunawardena, Dr. N. M. Perera, Dr. Colvin R. de Silva, Somawira Chandrasiri. All these people vigorously opposed the U.N.P. Government's attempt to stop the inflow of Indian immigrants to Ceylon. They not only opposed the measure but Dr. Colvin R. de Silva justified their opposition on the ground of the Marxist theory that all workers are one irrespective of race or colour or creed, and Leftists must oppose the U.N.P. measure to stop Indians from coming to Ceylon.

On this highly dialectical argument based on Marxism we would like to ask Mr. Philip Gunawar-

dena. Mr. Somawira Chandrasiri, and Mr. W. Dahanayake, where was their love for the Sinhalese at that time. If their opposition had triumphed on that day there would have been millions more Indians in this country and the question of the national language would have been settled for all time by the immigrants that Tamil be the only language for the entire country. The people who attempted to wreck the Sinhalese nation on that occasion did so because the Indians in this country had votes to give them. It is on the Indian votes that the Leftists swept into power in the 1947 General Elections. People like Mr. Philip Gunawardena took a leading part in the agitation to give universal voting rights to all Indians for all time.

In fact when Mr. D. S. Senanayake acquired Knavesmere Estate in the Kegalle District and wanted to distribute it to village peasants Mr. Philip Gunawardena was in the vanguard of those Leftists who wanted the Indians to remain and asked them not to leave the estate because if any division of property should be done in this country the first claim to such land belongs to the Indians who had helped to develop the plantations. It is the same Mr. Philip Gunawardena who now pretends to be such a great votary to the cause of Sinhalese nationalism. It is the same Mr. Philip Gunawardena who at that time voted for Indians, now speaks of the rights of the Sinhalese and seeks to climb back into power, for there is no other way open to him even to get into Parliament. This is the kind of man who having left the L.S.S.P. joined the C.P. and attacked the L.S.S.P. This is the kind of man who was driven out of the C.P. and found no place in any political party. This is the kind of man who now seeks to wreck other Marxists in order to be the sole proprietor of mass movements in this country.

It is very strange that people like Mr. Bandaranaike are willing to make a deal with this kind of person in order to win for himself the position of Premiership. Just as in the past Mr. Bandaranaike's opportunism was responsible for his having lost his position among

the people of this country, once again the same opportunism now displayed by him will earn for him not power but the utmost disappointment and rejection in the land.

The time will come soon when the people will realise that any friends of those who try to sell the right of this country to the Indians must deal with the consequence of such friendship. We warn them all that the United National Party is afraid of none and will compromise with none. It is easy enough to use the services of others to throw mud at the U.N.P. leaders through the columns of news sheets. The reckoning for these strange bed-fellows is round the corner. When the U.N.P. launches its election campaign, all those gentlemen will find out for themselves who holds the confidence of the people of this country.

Contribution to Cultural Life

"This Association has rendered great service in the field of teaching oriental languages during the past 5 years. Its aims have been to foster the oriental languages, to give a new life to Arts, Drama and Music. There is no doubt that Oriental Societies can contribute to the cultural life of the country," said His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, at the presentation of certificates and the distribution of prizes of the Sri Lanka Sastriya Maha Sangamaya at the Royal College hall on Sunday afternoon.

Continuing Sir Oliver said: The roots of our culture go deep down into the Languages and Literature of our people. A study of the Cultural achievements in the past is an inspiration to the present. Books on Sinhalese Drama, Music, Fine Arts and Folk Songs will no doubt provide a background for cultural development. There is a wide field for valuable work in this direction.

A Society like yours has a contribution to make not only towards the advancement of scholarship but also towards the general education of the people. This is specially so in the field of oriental studies which in an independent country ought to take a prominent place in our schools.

Societies like yours can also help to make oriental studies more popular so that more of our pupils may learn Pali and Sanskrit. Editions of Sinhalese and Pali Classics based on modern methods of editing and scholarship appear to be very necessary. In this field the Buddhist Clergy has helped a great deal. They should continue to help.

I congratulate those who will receive their certificates and prizes today. I thank the President, Reverend Hegoda Dhamminda, the Director Reverend Tellambure Pawarakkitti and all those present.

I thank the office-bearers of the Sri Lanka Sastriya Maha Sangamaya for the opportunity of being present here today.

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Australia's Cordial Welcome to Sir John Guest of Honour at Canberra

AUSTRALIA'S Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Menzies, greeted Sir John Kotelawala, Ceylon's Prime Minister, at Canberra Airport on the 2nd instant on his arrival at the national capital.

Sir John visited Parliament House where he was invited to the Cabinet Room and met all the Ministers who were discussing election policy. Later he was the guest of honour at a private Cabinet lunch.

In a Press interview he gave subsequently at which he showed the greatest interest in tea prices, Ceylon's living standards and Ceylon's attitude towards the SEATO. He said he had not yet discussed with the Australian Government any possible restrictions on Australian team imports following Australia's economic problems, but he felt that any curtailment was unlikely in view of the universal popularity of tea in that country. Australians were able to afford good quality tea and should be prepared to pay the prices, he said. The Australian basic wage was twelve pounds a week compared one and a half pounds in Ceylon. If Ceylonese standards were raised to a comparative level then tea would be so dear to Australia that it would be drunk in liquor glasses.

Ceylon was still firmly attached to the British Commonwealth. The Colombo Plan had made people realize that they were members of a club helping one another. He hoped Ceylon's admission to the U.N.O. would follow the Foreign Ministers' talks in Geneva.

Sir John's itinerary included visits to the National War Memorial and the Dunbroom Military College, attend a reception by the Ceylon High Commissioner, also a visit to the Snowy Mountains Tydro-Electric Scheme. On the return to Canberra he will visit Sydney for a few days before his departure to New Zealand.

He refused to be drawn into a discussion concerning Indonesia's claim over West New Guinea beyond pointing out Bandung's unanimous support for resumption of Dutch-Indonesian discussions. But he stressed on his successful campaign to persuade the United States that to reduce the price of synthetic rubber might well cause the expansion of Communism in South East Asia.

A pleasant incident was witnessed at Jakarta when Sir John was garlanded by an unknown admirer when his plane touched down on his way to Australia.

Sir John Shears Sheep

At Canberra, Sir John tried his hand at sheep shearing being determined to ascertain for himself the difference between Australia's major industry and Ceylon's tea growing. He grasped the sheep in workmanlike fashion, ran the shears over the fence and declared: "Really it is not difficult, but I would not like to shear some hundreds a day."

AS GUEST OF HONOUR

Speaking as a guest of honour over the Australian Broadcasting Commission's network, Sir John declared that he was greatly impressed by everything he had seen during his visit to Australia.

"I marvel at the wonderful opportunities which nature has given you," he said. "I think that here in Australia you have another world force in the making."

"I admire the grit, determination and pioneering spirit which in a brief 100 years have made the countryside yield abundance, built cities, foster-

ed industries and founded a happy and healthy nation."

Sir John added that Australia rightly valued the freedom which has been secured by the sacrifice of so many lives during the war.

Ceylon understood Australia's anxiety to safeguard this freedom from enemies within and without.

"But in this anxiety you must not forget you have a unique opportunity to serve the world in general and the region which you live in particular," he said.

MUTUAL HELP

"Geographically, you are of the East, racially and culturally your ties are with the West. You have shown in no uncertain terms that you wish to be friends with eastern people and also help our efforts to better ourselves."

"Helping us to attain our goals should appeal not only to your sense of humanity but also your desire for your own security."

Sir John said that Australia possessed the goodwill and confidence of the free Eastern peoples and than in this favourable atmosphere Australia had a great role of bringing East and West?

"If you permit yourselves to see and understand us, you will find our outlook a little different from your own in things which matter," he said.

"If in a spirit of understanding you observe our way of thinking, you will find a wonderful opportunity of interpreting the East to the West. Also, you will find it not unprofitable to come to learn what we may teach you from our own ancient civilisations."

WATER STORAGE FOR USE DURING DROUGHT

"GOVERNMENT wishes to focus attention on the importance of water for national prosperity. Such a purpose was deemed necessary for their daily needs as well as, by plants, which are the raw materials of food, clothing, and commerce of the community, for the same purpose," said Mr. T. Wickremasinghe, Soil Conservation Officer, in his broadcast talk on Ceylon Radio on Saturday night in connection with the National Soil Conservation Week, 1955:

Mr. Wickremasinghe said: In Ceylon, water is received in the form of rain during certain seasons which are of a few months duration and repeat themselves once every twelve months. There are two such seasons in the year which occur throughout the country and are each of approximately two or three months duration. However, there are certain areas in which this period is extended to six months, during one or other of these seasons, which depends on the location of these respective areas. There is another important characteristic prevalent in all parts of Ceylon which is that there is an interval of no rain or drought in between these two seasons when there is a shortage of water. It has its effects on the community, as water is just sufficient for human needs, as well as for the growth of plants during this period. If this interval is extended the quantity of water is extremely short and the community is faced with drought and subsequent starvation. It is to avoid such a situation that the Government wishes to focus attention on the vital need of storing rainwater for the welfare of the community during periods of rain which might be utilised during a drought period longer than usual.

The problem arises as to the manner in which this might be done. The answer is by storing the rainwater in the soil during rainy seasons since the soil contains a tremendous volume of space between the innumerable soil particles in which it might be done. However, the water has to first enter the soil before it is stored and it is at this stage that problems arise for the surface of this reservoir is land which is extremely vast and water has to be taken evenly throughout.

This is difficult because the surface is extremely variable and the absorption of water varies too. In addition, the land is owned by several in-

dividuals possessing their own ideas as to the manner in which they should use it and look after it. Yet, there is only one general method in which the surface is able to absorb rain water evenly throughout its entire surface and send it to the space below for storage. If this is not done, it will be extremely difficult to store sufficient quantities of water in the soil for the community during dry weather.

The Soil Conservation Act itself outlines very briefly the general measures to be taken by the population to store water in the soil in case the lack of water creates social and economic distress to a community. It takes great care to see that the fundamental liberties of the individual are not violated in the process, by stating clearly that no measures will be recommended in an area unless the lack of stored rainwater cause serious social disturbances to the community, making it necessary for the Government to step in prevent its continuance.

The present area declared erodible under the Soil Conservation Act constitutes such a problem, for the area consists of two Agricultural communities living side by side. Also, one is rapidly increasing in population with land for its expansion greatly restricted with the result that it is creating population pressure on the land leading to problems which prevent the storing of rainwater in the soil which, in turn, are seriously affecting the community within it. A satisfactory solution to the problem is available if the agricultural communities within it realise that they are both necessary to National prosperity. If such an understanding is arrived at, there will be no difficulty in evolving a technical plan to enable the communities to live harmoniously together while at the same time taking steps to relieve the population pressure on land and store the rainwater in the soil. It has to be pointed out that this is the first instance of many problems of a similar nature which have to be faced by this country in the near future if it is to prosper as a free and independent race of people and has to be tackled in a rational manner which is not easy. Therefore, this opportunity is taken to request the fullest co-operation of every individual to help to solve this ever pressing problem on a permanent footing. Thank you.

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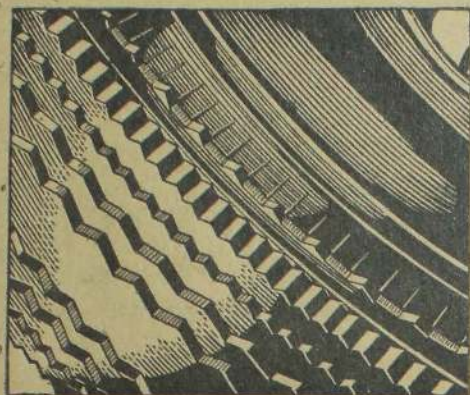
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National Soil Conservation Week

TALK BY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

IN connection with the National Soil Conservation Week which began last week the acting Director of Agriculture, Mr. W. R. C. Paul, delivered the following broadcast talk over Radio Ceylon on the subject of Soil and Water Conservation and its relation to agricultural extension.

The work of agricultural extension is based on a fundamental premise of democratic government which lies in providing technical assistance to the population in respect of problems connected with agriculture. The extension organisation consists of officers who in different parts of the country are in direct contact with farmers to assist them in investigating their problems and to give them whatever assistance is possible in solving these. They also bring to the notice of the research staff such problems as need investigation. The organisation is one which maintains close co-operation with the farmers and gives them the necessary technical information that becomes available from time to time.

There are separate organisations for the tea growers in the Tea Research Institute, the Rubber growers in the Rubber Research Institute, the coconut growers in the Coconut Research Institute, and the growers of food and minor crops in the Department of Agriculture.

The extension work in Soil and Water Conservation is somewhat different in that it is not confined to blocks of land bounded by the limits of crops but to units known as watersheds or river valleys which are units based on the flow of water. These units have been established at the time the earth came into being that they were carved out with the first raindrops that fell on rock, the parent of soil and flowed over it to a level of rest. These same patterns have continued throughout time and continue to do so long after the original rock has weathered to soil. It is a fundamental relationship of water to land which manifests itself clearly at the time when land is cleared for cultivation and is never limited to any artificial boundaries. It is for this reason that the extension work of Soil and Water Conservation is organised on different lines to that of other agricultural activities.

Again, the rainwater falling on the land has to be absorbed by the soil and then seeps down as subsurface water into valleys which carry this water to areas which do not receive rain thereby providing water to several areas of land without rain. A more simple and efficient system of providing water from an area of rain to one of drought by means of rivers is hard to find and if this same efficiency is to be maintained, then the same pattern has to be followed. It will thus be necessary that every drop of water should be first stored in the soil and then allowed to flow as subsurface water.

The other principle governing extension work in soil and water conservation, differing from that of the other agricultural activities, is that of water being a fundamental need for human survival as it is a daily requirement of the population. It is vital for human survival and therefore, is of greater importance than the conservation of water for agricultural production. The

rainfall seasons and the river valleys are also related in this one plan for providing an adequate supply of water for the population for their daily needs and it is for this reason that the conservation of water is an important feature in the life of any country.

As stated earlier the science of soil and water conservation is based on watersheds or river valleys and the extension work is organised on this basis. The next stage in this work is to divide these units into areas of similar climate for it is possible to determine measures to conserve water only when the quantity of water to be expected as rain is known. Once this is done the rainfall to be expected and to be catered for, will be fixed for each area. It will then be necessary to determine the quantity of rainfall which in each of these areas will ultimately reach the soil after being intercepted by the growing crop and this will have to be done by separating the land into separate types of agriculture or land use as each one intercepts rainwater differently. It is only after this classification is done that it will be possible to determine the measures which are to be recommended to the farmers for each type of land use in a given climatic zone. The measures that are to be recommended to agriculturists have to be those which they are acquainted with and have confidence in. The method of finding this information is by undertaking a survey of the area and recording the more satisfactory measures adopted by local people to conserve rainwater and recommend them to the rest of the population. Also the measures recorded in the field will serve as demonstration plots to the surrounding farmers and will be used as a source of propaganda to others.

It will be noticed that at the start measures recommended will be those which will barely help to conserve water but with time these will be improved upon until a stage is reached when the entire quantity of rainwater reaching the soil will be conserved in it and the fundamental plan of nature of storing rainwater in the soil might be achieved.

At the start of a survey conducted to obtain information of the local knowledge with regard to understanding the need for conserving water, it will be seen that the measures will be those of trapping water, by means of drains, the sole aim being to obstruct the flow of water reaching the soil at intervals giving it time to be absorbed by the soil. For this method of conserving water the extension service has to devise simple rules for providing this information to the agriculturist. The procedure is to evolve a system of land classification in which land is separated into smaller units recognised by two of its properties, namely, soil and slope and recommend the optimal spacing of drains for each unit, which will give the soil time to absorb the water. The spacing of earthbunds and stone terraces will be included in these recommendations.

However, from a point of view of soil and water conservation it is not the ideal method of conserving soil and water for it accepts movement of water between two drains and therefore extension workers have to look for other measures which will help

water to be stored in the soil as soon as it reaches it. These measures will be those which will help to increase the openness of the surface soil and are closely associated with the quantity of organic matter and humus. They are known as agronomic measures. The ultimate goal of extension work in soil and water conservation will be to look for measures adopted by local agriculturists to help to store the rainwater in the soil as it reaches it rather than those which offer obstacles to its flow. Thank you.

Cleared-Up Cases And Convictions

Comparative figures of the more important categories of crime for the first nine months of the years 1954 and 1955 have been published by the Police. The total for this year is 13,334 as against 14,337 last year—a definite decrease.

Ceylon is one of the few Police Services which still adheres to the system of recording as or detection only a case which ends in a successful conviction in a court of law. It is said that many Police Services now adopt a system called "cleared-up cases."

According to a definition of this system recorded in the report on the London Metropolitan Police for 1953, given by the Commissioner Sir John Nott-Bower, "crimes cleared-up include those, for which a person is arrested or summoned or those taken into consideration by a court when the offender is found guilty on another charge."

Convictions vs Cleared-up
The following illustrations given by the Inspector-General of Police clarify the marked difference between the two systems:—

(i) If, for example, in Ceylon 'A' murders 'B' and commits suicide, it would not be regarded by the Police as a successful detection. It would however, be marked up as a "cleared-up" case in many other countries.

(ii) "A" commits burglary and the Police are able to recover Rs. 5 worth of the property stolen. "A" is charged with burglary or, in the alternative, for retaining stolen property, but he is convicted only of the latter. In Ceylon this would not be recorded as a conviction under burglary because the alternative charge on which the accused was convicted is a minor offence. Under the "cleared up" system, of course, the whole case would be recorded as having been "cleared up"—in other words, as a conviction under burglary.

(iii) Supposing in a case of murder a conviction in the Supreme Court is set aside either in the Court of Criminal Appeal or the Privy Council on a technical point of law, it would no doubt be "cleared up," but in Ceylon would nevertheless be regarded as yet one more murder unsolved.

War Time Need Becomes Peace Time Amenity

YOU will remember that this movement came into being during the last war as Victory Volunteer Centres to provide accurate information about the war to the general public. During that time public co-operation towards this movement was very encouraging. At the close of the war the Victory Volunteer Centres, which were doing good work, were taken over by the Ministry of Local Government and thus the Community Centres came into existence," said H.E. the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, at the Community Centres Rally of the Kalutara District held at the Kalutara Vidyalaya last Saturday, addressing the gathering in Sinhalese.

Continuing, Sir Oliver said: This scheme was organised specially to encourage people in rural areas to read newspapers and magazines, to take part in sport, such as volleyball, etc., to practice national dancing and singing and to provide all facilities to enable them to spend their leisure time profitably. Towards this end, it is necessary to have a reading room, a library and a playground. Community Centres which were taken over by the Ministry of Local Government are the responsibility of the different Local Government Bodies, such as Village Committees, Town Councils, etc. Officers have been appointed by the Government to assist the local bodies in this work.

The movement has spread all over the Island and at present there are about 2,270 Community Centres in existence. There are about 125 Community Centres in this District alone. A sum of Rs. 3,600 has been given as grants-in-aid by the Government for the year 1954-55 for 76 Community Centres in the District. The successful working of these Centres is due in a

large measure to the assistance given by generous people in the area and the untiring efforts of volunteer workers. Rallies of this kind are very useful. Several generous citizens, have given valuable prizes, some have made cash contributions, others have devoted valuable time for many days to make this Rally a success. My thanks go to them all.

If our nation is to progress as a free nation, there should be more volunteer workers and helpers. Such men would lead our people in their leisure time and help fulfil the aims and purposes of the Community Centres. The progress of our Community Centres does not depend on the grants given by

the Government alone or on the officers appointed by Government. I should like to remind you that if these Community Centres are to be a success we must forget differences of race, of religion and of caste, and we must work together in peace and with affection.

In conclusion, I thank all those present here for receiving me so kindly.

I am thankful to the Hon. Minister, Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara, and the members of the Organising Committee for having invited me to preside today at the Kalutara District Community Centres Rally. It was with great pleasure that I accepted your invitation.

World Bank Wisdom Comments By Geoffrey Tyson

MOST people, I imagine, regard themselves as only very remotely concerned with the affairs of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which I shall hereinafter call by its popular title—the World Bank. And a world bank it is, in the most literal meaning of those words. I have just been re-reading the verbatim text of Mr. Eugene Black's presidential speech at the tenth meeting of the Bank which was held in Istanbul in mid-September. In so doing my mind went back to the time when the various governments of South Asia were being invited to join the World Bank and I recalled the doubts and hesitations which were then expressed about the potential usefulness of such a bank. By and large we all thought that the International Monetary Fund was destined to be the great achievement of the BRETTON WOODS discussions, and that the sister institution—the World Bank—would tag along behind as a useful,

but not very purposeful, adjunct. How different it has since turned out to be; not the Monetary Fund but the World Bank, acting in support of such organisations as the Colombo Plan, has given the under-developed countries access to a whole range of new resources in men and money.

DECADE OF EXPANSION

The last ten post-war years have, in all probability, been a period of greater expansion than any ten years in this century. Though primarily a lending institution the World Bank is also looked to, by its 37 members and territories, as a source of advice on the problem of economic development. Since the start of operations in 1946 total loan commitments amount to 2,300 million dollars, approximately 275 million dollars going to Asian countries in the first nine years of operations. Though substantial, it is obviously not possible to put a cash value on advisory assistance, of which the recent missions to Ceylon and Malaya or the joint negotiations with India and Pakistan over the use of the disputed Indus irrigation waters are but three examples. As Mr. Eugene Black said in his address 'to achieve a rising standard of living requires a rising standard of government,' and in practice the Bank is regularly available to help the less developed countries to improve the management of their economic affairs by affording top administrators an opportunity to broaden their knowledge of development problems. Indeed, it has now established a staff college to put senior officials of all governments into touch with policies and programmes which are likely to assist in the solution of their own countries' problems. The remarkable thing about World Bank advice is that it is usually accepted by the recipient governments, which must be counted for merit in this age of doubt and suspicion.

Certain South Asian Governments have undertaken heavy industrial commitments, or are strongly predisposed in favour of state enterprise, and I am not so naive as to imagine they are willing to accept Mr. Eugene Black's thesis at its face value. But, even where the administration is irrevocably embarked upon ambitious schemes of industrialisation on its own account, his words might profitably be heeded for the warning they give of dangers which lie not very far below the surface of an over-planned economy.

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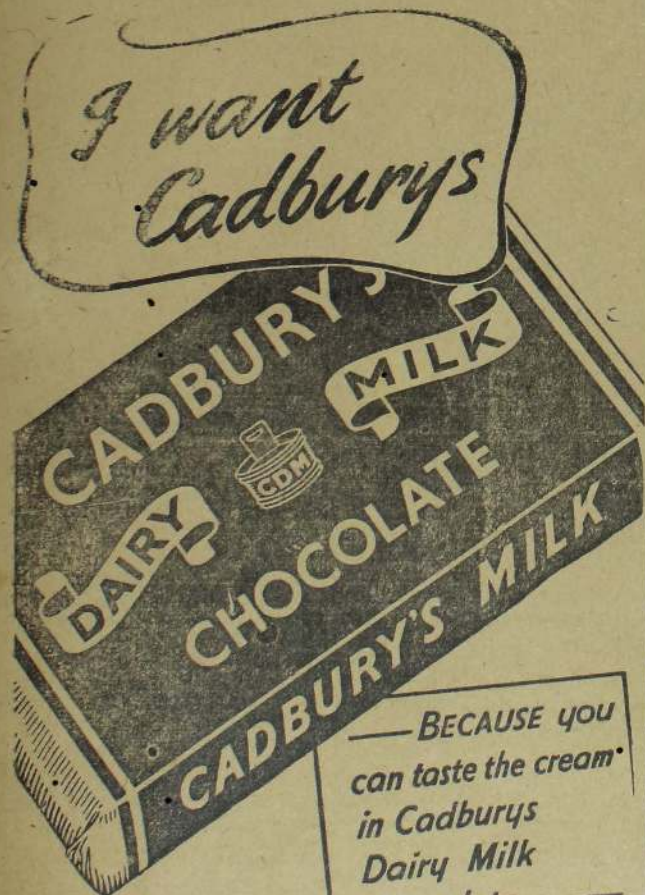
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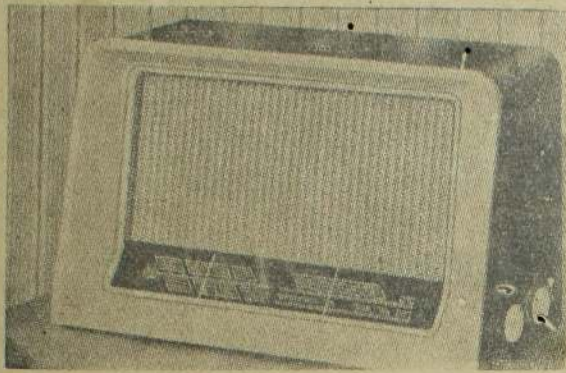
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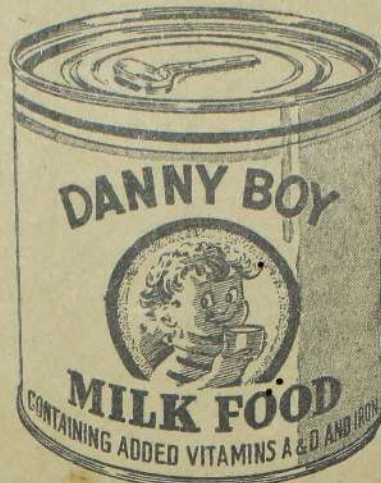
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ACCORDING to the "New York Times" the United States will build atomic power stations for the atomic age in South-East Asia under the auspices of the Colombo Plan. The United States contribution to the Colombo Plan since joining it in 1951 has reached a total of 524 million dollars. This contribution is described as the "Marshall Plan for Asia." The following is the full text of the editorial comment:

According to the latest United Nations survey most of the Free World is now producing goods, at least in the industrial field, at more than twice the rate before the last world war. In consequence and despite some strains and stresses, it is enjoying an unprecedented prosperity which has forced even the Soviets to review their ideas on the achievements and the durability of "capitalism."

There is, however, a quarter of the human race, concentrated in South and South-East Asia, which does not share in this happy development. In fact, owing to an explosive population growth, it is barely holding its own in living standards, and taken as a whole it has even less to eat now than before the war. The whole area is therefore a heaving sea of hungry, restless and resentful people whom the Communists would like to lure into their camp.

These grim facts too often lost to Western sight, have been emphasized again by the Ministerial Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan, which has been operating for six years, and which the United States nations now meeting in Singapore, joined in 1951, is one of the three major organizations, including the American International Co-operation Administration and the United Nations Technical Assistance Program that seek to show Asia how to gain prosperity with freedom.

During these six years the Colombo group has spent \$8,400,000,000 on economic development in South and South East Asia, to which the United States contributed \$524,000,000. This sum may not look too large when compared with the more than 50 billion dollars which the United States has expended in foreign aid since the war. But the Colombo sum has been concentrated on a particularly vulnerable area and represents, so to say, the Marshall Plan for Asia. It has built new factories, new irrigation projects, new power stations and is preparing to build atomic power stations for the atomic age.

As in the case of the American-aid programmes, the Colombo Plan is not only an altruistic and humanitarian undertaking, it is also a product of enlightened self-interest. It is an investment in peace and freedom not only for Asia but also for the Western world. And it is a remarkable demonstration of the new vision of modern "capitalism," which has learned that in the long run exploitation does not pay and that it is good business to build up new markets and create prosperous customers.

Much remains to be done along these lines, and the major part will have to be done by private enterprise and investment.

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The operations of this Association are spread throughout the Commonwealth, and besides having Branch Offices in all the capital cities of Australia and New Zealand, it has District Offices in practically every town of note in Great Britain and in South Africa, and in the East is represented at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, and Hongkong. Ceylon Branch is the central office for the control of the four establishments last mentioned.

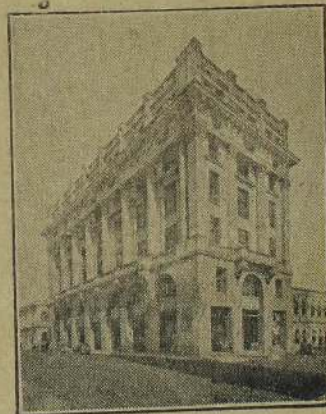
The Association has been responsible for the introduction of some of the most important features of modern Life Assurance, and for many years has offered sound Life Assurance Contracts to the public for premiums well below the average, with full bonus rights, the figures of which have proved well above the average. This has been rendered possible by the careful selection of lives which has resulted in a favourable mortality experience, the marked economy of Management expenses and the cautious investment of funds. A Perusal of Financial Statements, will show that the security of the Association's policy contracts is above question.

One well-known British Journal writes of the Association as follows: "The contracts of the Association are liberal to the Assured. Its premiums are low and its financial resources second to none. In a word the National Mutual of Australasia is an Office which can with confidence be recommended to intending assurers."

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